



**MESSAGES OF THE PRESIDENT**

**DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL**

**1961-1965**

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Official Week in Review

## **Official Week in Review: December 31 – January 6, 1962**

**December 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today appealed to the people to continue the task of building a nation worthy of the adventurous courage of their fathers and a bright future for their children through their own integrity and efforts as enunciated by President Roxas.

In his message commemorating the 70th birth anniversary this day of the late President Manuel Roxas, President Macapagal said the founder of the Liberal Party and first President of the Republic left “a legacy of national faith as strong as it is bold and durable.”

He said this faith rested “in the people’s native genius to work out their survival and destiny whatever the odds, and in the basic generosity of a former mother nation that has resisted the temptation of its special advantages in a period of our greatest need and peril.”

The President’s message follows in full:

“The 70th birth anniversary of Manuel A. Roxas, first President of the Republic, is a good time to attempt a definition of his place in our national history.

“Youngest in the triumvirate, with Manuel Quezon and Sergio Osmeña, that fought to nourish and develop our nationhood to fulfillment, Roxas picked up the mantle from his seniors amid the debris of the world’s biggest disaster and set the course that the Republic has steadily followed since to achieve its position of dignity, vigor, and promise in the councils of free nations.

“Under the imperatives of that disaster, he met the challenge to lay out the structural framework of a young nation prostrate from the Pacific War, mustered the people’s moral and material resources for the purpose, and left a legacy of national faith as strong as it is bold and durable.

“This faith rested in our people’s native genius to work out their survival and destiny whatever the odds, and in the basic generosity of a mother nation that has resisted the temptation of its special advantages, in a period of our greatest need and peril.

“Our inheritance from Roxas bids us anew to press on, in the next four years at the least and in the succeeding generations at large, with the continuing task of relying on ourselves and on the integrity of our race to raise a nation worthy of the adventurous courage of our fathers and of the future we envision for our children and their posterity.

“Thus we take our heritage from Roxas as from all others of superior value, who gave their lives that we might be truly free.”

President Macapagal today predicted closer and stronger relations between the Philippines and the rest of the free world under the Liberal administration.

The President said that under his leadership and that of Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs Emmanuel Pelaez, the promotion of stronger and more lasting ties with friendly countries will be pursued with vigor.

The occasion was the luncheon given at Malacañang by the President and the First Lady in honor of special ambassadors sent by their respective chiefs of state to attend the presidential and Vice-Presidential inauguration.

The President also expressed gratitude to the heads of state who sent special ambassadors to attend his inauguration and that of his Vice-President at the Luneta yesterday.

Present at the luncheon were Vice-President and concurrently foreign Secretary and Mrs. Pelaez, Msgr. Salvatore Siino apostolic nuncio and dean of the diplomatic corps; Ambassador and Mrs. Thord Goransson of Sweden, Ambassador and Mrs. Robert B. Meyner of the United States, Ambassador and Mrs. Ditlef Knudsen of Norway, Ambassador Pote Sarasin secretary general of SEATO; Ambassador and Princess Rangsiyakorn Aphakorn of Thailand, and Minister and Mrs. John Gordon Mein of the U. S. Embassy.

The President and the First Lady spent the night at their Laura, San Juan Rizal residence and arrived at Malacañang for the luncheon at 12:05 p. m. Before receiving his guests, the President shook hands with hundreds of people who had trooped to Malacañang to congratulate him and the First Lady.

After luncheon, at 2:20 p.m., the President and Mrs. Macapagal returned to their residence in San Juan, Rizal.

President Diosdado Macapagal received a congratulatory message from President John F. Kennedy of the United States on his inauguration as President of the Republic.

In his letter of felicitations which was transmitted by the U. S. Embassy in Manila today, President Kennedy expressed confidence that the Philippines and the United States will continue to cooperate with one another “in furthering the common struggle for a world of free choice.”

The U. S. President, likewise, paid tribute to the “unwavering devotion” of the Filipinos to their democratic heritage, and wished President Macapagal “success and strength in leading your nation in prosperity, freedom and justice.”

President Macapagal appointed Maj. Gen. Pelagio A. Cruz, vice-chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, as *ad interim* chief of staff with the rank of lieutenant general, it was announced by Malacañang today.

Gen. Cruz succeeds Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal whose three-year term as chief of staff expires today.

In announcing the appointment, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova said that the President’s decision to promote Gen. Cruz was based on seniority and merit. The appointee is highly respected by officers and men of the Armed Forces.

Gen. Cabal remains in the active service as lieutenant general of the Armed Forces pending the resolution of the administrative charges of “unexplained wealth” filed against him. Under Republic Act No. 3019, otherwise known as the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act, a public officer shall not be allowed to resign or retire pending an investigation, criminal or administrative.

Gen. Cruz has been in the active service of the Armed Forces for the last 26 years. He was twice commanding general of the Philippine Air Force. He headed and revitalized the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency during the term of the late President Magsaysay; then he became chief of the Constabulary, and later vice-chief of staff.

President Macapagal gave instructions today to hold the release of some 2,000 hogheads of impounded Virginia leaf tobacco until such time as the new administration can adopt a policy on the matter.

The order was transmitted to Customs Commissioner Rolando Geotina during the “surprise” visit made by Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc to the North Harbor following a confidential information given to President Macapagal that a last-minute attempt would be made by the importers to secure the release of the impounded tobacco.

Secretary Mutuc accompanied by Press Secretary Rufino C. Hechanova, paid a visit to the office of Customs Commissioner Geotina who was out.

They were informed, however, by Deputy Collector of Customs Augusto Africa that representatives of the importers had gone there earlier during the day to file the necessary documents and to deposit P19 million to cover duties and taxes of the imported tobacco.

Africa said that Commissioner Geotina refused to accept the documents and the P19 million deposit in the absence of a "release order" from the Central Bank.

Africa pointed out that the taxes and duties on the imported Virginia leaf tobacco will go up by 25 per cent effective tomorrow, January 1, 1962, and that this would mean additional P4.7 million in revenue for the country.

Secretary Mutuc informed Africa that it was the thinking of President Macapagal that no action should be taken on this highly controversial shipment pending a thorough study of the matter.

Mutuc also inspected the tobacco inside Pier 5, 7, and 13. He also requested the Harbor security officials not to allow the release of the tobacco under any circumstance pending a "re-study" of the whole matter.

This evening President Macapagal renewed his pledge to consecrate all his efforts to the service of the nation.

In a brief extemporaneous speech delivered before a record crowd of some 60,000 people that jam-packed Plaza Sta. Cruz to attend the popular ball tendered by the City of Manila in connection with the inaugural festivities, the President appealed for cooperation, support, and understanding" so that the goal set by his administration could be attained."

President and Mrs. Macapagal arrived at Plaza Sta. Cruz at 9:15 p.m. The President wore casual *jusiBarong Tagalog* and gray pants, while the First Lady came in a simply white terno.

Mayor Lacson who met the President and the First Lady when the number one Ford car arrived at the plaza, said that "Mr. Macapagal is the first President of the Republic that ever attended a popular ball tendered by the city to an incoming Chief Executive."

The President also took occasion to express his gratitude to the city electorate and Mayor Lacson for giving their support to him as well as to the entire Liberal party line-up during the last election.

Security detail was virtually caught "flat-footed" when the Chief Executive suddenly descended from the stage, into the waiting arms of the enthusiastic crowd that elbowed their way in to shake the hands of their new President.

The Chief Executive and Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez were introduced by Mayor Lacson.

President and Mrs. Macapagal were joined in the ball by Vice-President and Mrs. Pelaez, Sen. and Mrs. Camilo Osias, Sen. and Mrs. Francisco Rodrigo, Sen. and Mrs. Estanislao Fernandez, Sen. and Mrs. Ferdinand Marcos, Rep. Cornelio Villareal, Secretary and Mrs. Eleuterio Adevos, Executive Secretary Amelito Mutuc, Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, and other host officials.

The First Couple stayed at the ball for almost three hours. They returned to their San Juan residence at 11:30 p.m.

**January 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today expressed the hope that peace and prosperity would prevail throughout the world in 1962, and stressed that this country under his administration will continue to exert its utmost to contribute its humble share in the promotion of peace.

The President made the statement at the traditional exchange of toasts with the diplomatic corps at Malacañang on the occasion of the presidential reception on New Year's Day.

The President also pointed out that the unabated global tension over the protracted ideological conflict has its counterpart in the Philippines where of late advanced units of a foreign ideology engaged in an adventure aimed at world domination has manifested renewed resurgence.

As long as there is no diminution of this tension. President Macapagal said, there is continued danger to mankind owing to the production of destructive weapons of war with the potency to destroy mankind.

President Macapagal stated that the Philippines has an attitude of peace toward countries of the Free World and an attitude of tolerance toward nations which do not share ideological affinity with the Philippines as long as they do not seek or endeavor to impose their ideology upon us.

In closing, the President expressed his appreciation for the greetings extended by heads of states through their local diplomat missions for the success of his administration.

Speaking for the local diplomatic corps, Msgr. Salvatore Siino, the Apostolic Nuncio, expressed again the “fervent sentiments of congratulation for the trust which Filipino people has placed in President Macapagal in choosing you to govern its high destinies as President of the Republic.”

Members of the diplomatic corps were among the callers received by President and Mrs. Macapagal. The first callers were Vice-President and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez, followed by Mrs. Luz Magsaysay, Mrs. Nini Quezon-Avanceña, and Manuel Quezon, Jr.

Members of Congress led by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez also followed tradition to greet the First Couple of the land. Prominent NPs who greeted the Macapagals included Reps. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, Felix Fuentebella of Camarines Sur, Laurentino Badilles of Lanao del Norte, Miguel Cueneo of Cebu, Justiniano Montano of Cavite, and Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan.

Members of the Commission on Elections came up at about 10:30 a.m. As he shook the hands of Chairman Gaudencio Garcia, the President said, “congratulations for a job well done.” With Chairman Garcia were Commissioners Sixto Brillantes and Genaro Visara.

Palace observers said that the number of people who came to Malacañang was reminiscent of the first New Year’s Day reception of the late President Ramon Magsaysay in 1954.

The President and the First Lady stood at the reception line for more than two hours as ranking government officials, representatives of veterans organizations, and top military brass filed past to greet them. Once in a while, they were allowed to pause from the interminable handshaking only to sip from a glass of orange juice or to wipe off a sweat in that crowded, hot reception hall.

Toward noontime, the protocolar sequence of visitors was disrupted as a number of laborers and other representatives of the working class who could not await their turn in the afternoon, turned up with members of their families and inserted themselves among university and college executives, governors and city mayors, and members of press, radio, television, and motion pictures.

The President, however, was glad to see them and seemed to shake their hands more vigorously than his other callers. The general public was scheduled to take their turn to greet the President and the First Lady from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Before the reception, the President and Mrs. Macapagal heard mass offered at the Malacañang chapel.

President Macapagal gave the Armed Forces a “shot in the term” when he inducted Lt. Gen. Pelagio A. Cruz, vice chief of staff, as chief of staff of the AFP, in ceremonies held in Malacañang this noon.

The President's decision to promote Gen Cruz was based on seniority and merit. It was aimed of the rank and file.

The induction ceremony which was marked by simplicity, was attended by the First Lady and members of the AFP top brass.

General Cruz succeeds Lt. Gen Manuel F. Cabal whose three-year term as chief of staff expired yesterday. Gen Cabal will remain as lieutenant general in the Armed Forces pending the resolution of the administrative charges against him.

General Cruz has been in the active service of the AFP for the last 26 years. He was twice commanding general of the Philippine Air Force, headed and revitalized the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency during the term of the late President Magsaysay, then became chief of the Philippine Constabulary.

General Cruz, has participated in various SEATO conferences in South East Asia, Australia, Bangkok, and Hawaii. He was unanimously elected chairman of the military planners conference of the SEATO held in Baguio in May 1955.

Also present during the induction ceremony were Secretary Macario Peralta of National Defense, Undersecretary Mariano Yenko, Jr., and Gen. Cabal.

Also present were commanding generals of the four major military commands; namely, Alfredo Santos of the Army, Pedro Q. Molina of the Air Force, Commodore Simeon Castro of the Navy, Isagani V. Campo of the PC; and Area Commanders Generals Oscar Rialp of the IMA, Dominador Garcia of the IIMA, Ricardo Papa of the IIIMA, and Ramon Aguirre of the IVMA, and their respective staffs.

This noon President Macapagal paid tribute to the late President Roxas saying that he was the most brilliant and the greatest president the Philippines ever had.

The tribute to the late President who founded the Liberal Party, was made in an inspired extemporaneous speech delivered at a luncheon tendered by the Friends of Roxas Monday at noon today at the Old Selecta on Recto Avenue commemorating the 71st birthday anniversary of the late president.

President Macapagal recalled how after immediately passing the bar examinations as top notcher, he was counselled by President Roxas to enter the public service instead of entering into the practice of law.

According to President Macapagal, he had since then been following the political career of the late President. President Macapagal expressed the belief that although he was not a member of the Friends of Roxas, he had contributed his part in glorifying the memory of this departed leader by the victory of the Liberal Party in the last elections.

President Macapagal pledged that he would not fail his duty to his country and people after having been elected President under the banner of the Liberal Party.

The Chief Executive arrived at the Old Selecta restaurant at 12:25 p.m. after receiving his New Year's Day callers at Malacañang. He was accompanied by Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal.

The First Couple were met by Rep. Gerardo Roxas, son of the late President Roxas, and Modesto Farolan, commissioner of tourism, at the entrance to the restaurant.

Among those who attended the affairs, aside from Mrs. Trinidad de Leon Vda. de Roxas and Congressman and Mrs. Gerardo Roxas, were Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez; Ambassador to Washington Emilio Abello; Justice Sabino Padilla, Sens. Estanislao Fernandez, Jose Roy, Maria Kalaw Katigbak, Raul Manglapus, Gaudencio Antonino, and Francisco Rodrigo.

Also present were Reps. Cornelio Villareal and Salipada Pendatun, Placido Mapa, Enrique Magalona, Jorge Vargas, Albino SyCip, Jose P. de Leon, Felixberto Bustos and many others.

There was unprecedented crowd. Only 200 invitations were issued but more than 600 people showed up.

Because of the large crowd, protocol was dispensed with. The common people were seen seated beside senators, congressmen, and other ranking government officials.

After the affair, the President and the First Lady returned to Malacañang to receive the general public which was scheduled to greet them from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

This afternoon President Macapagal threw the gates of Malacañang wide open for the common masses in connection with the traditional reception of the President and the First Lady on New Year's Day.

For more than three hours, thousands of men women and children streamed through the gates of Malacañang and filed past the First Couple to shake their hands, and later wandered curiously into the Palace's spacious and neatly furnished rooms, as if they wanted to linger for a few more moments with their new President.

Unlike the morning callers, some 12,600 admirers of the President represented all walks of life, and of fine from as near as Manila to as far as Cagayan in the North and Sulu in the South, to convey their best wishes and pledge their loyalty and support to the Chief Executive.

For a time, the famed ceremonial hall, scene of many solemn state rite, and the social hall, site of many a glittering social function, became veritable playgrounds for kids as their parents stared dreamily at the huge chandeliers, paused to admire magnificent paintings with gold-edged frames, or sat in oversized satin-covered sofas.

Seeing the wide grin on their faces and the tears of joy that many of them shed, the President, with Mrs. Macapagal by his side, enjoyed every minute of the occasion with mixed emotions, shaking hands with working men who came in slippers and *bakya*, beaming smiles of encouragement and thanking them for their visit.

As early as one o'clock, people began to gather at the Malacañang compound waiting for the main gate to open when the President and the First Lady would be ready to receive them.

At 3:30 o'clock sharp, despite a heavy morning schedule topped off by a luncheon engagement with the Friends of Roxas at the New Selecta, the President and his Lady began receiving their callers.

Mrs. Paula Sarmiento, 83 years old, from Meycauayan, Bulacan, headed the steady stream, which lasted up to past six o'clock. Then other octagenarians like Regina Parajale of Oslob, Cebu, and an old illiterate woman from Sinait, Ilocos Sur, followed, hugging and kissing President and Mrs. Macapagal as tears of joy fell from their lips.

Donato Pablo, a blind man, came all the way from Ballesteros, Cagayan, to feel the touch of the hand of his favorite President. He was found wandering near the Palace and accompanied by Bienvenido Chincuanco, who came from Guagua, Pampanga.

Dr. Dominador La Madrid, who had composed a poem entitled *Diosdado Macapagal, the Thinker*, brought along his son, Rizal, a godson of the President and presented his poem to the Chief Executive.

Another caller, seven-year-old Rosario Ventura of Aguado, San Miguel, together with her four kid sisters, found their way to the President and the First Lady to congratulate them.

Among other callers were former Gov. Hadji Gulamu Razul of Sulu; Ex-Rep. Atilano R. Cinco; former Executive Secretary Marciano Roque Dominador Encio, barrio lieut. of San Roque, Llorente, Samar; Dr. Benvenuto R. Diño,

chief of plastic surgery at the UP; Dr. Ignacio Santos Diaz, former Gov. Gregorio Santayana of Quezon; and many others.

Minister Manuel G. Zamora, estimated the crowd at double that of the late President Magsaysay.

At 5 p.m. about 8,000 people had filed past the reception line formed at the top of the stairs by the President and the First Lady, but thousands more were in the Palace grounds inching their way toward the Palace entrance and up the wide stairway.

After the reception, the President returned to his study to administer the oaths of new officials.

The evening President Macapagal named Andres V. Castillo as Governor of the Central Bank of the Philippines.

Castillo, who until his appointment was the deputy governor of the Central Bank, took his oath before President Macapagal shortly after his appointment paper was signed.

In appointing Castillo, the President said that the appointment extended by former President Garcia to Mr. Aytona as Governor of the Central Bank for a term of six years on the eve his (President Macapagal's) assumption of office as President was a "transparent act of sabotage of the new administration."

President Macapagal said that the former President should have been aware that for the implementation of the economic program of the new administration, particularly the decontrol program, the sympathetic collaboration of the Central Bank is essential.

When the outgoing President appointed as Central Bank governor a "rabid Nacionalista partisan like Mr. Aytona, it appears plainly intended to put a roadblock to the success of my administration's economic program in disregard of the welfare of the people," he added.

President Macapagal said it is now common knowledge that he is handicapped because Congress is controlled by the Nacionalista Party.

The apparent purpose of the former President seems to be the aggravation of my difficulties by attempting to place me in a situation where I can also be sabotaged in the Executive Department itself, the President added.

President Macapagal said that to defend the interests of the people through the successful handling of our economic problems, he was left no other choice but to withdraw, cancel, and nullify the appointment extended to Mr. Aytona and to appoint as governor of the Central Bank former Deputy Governor Andres Castillo, who is not a politician but "a highly-respected and eminently qualified career official."

The President said that if the former President and those who may be in league with him, have lost all concern for the well-being of the people by endlessly playing politics at the cost of the public welfare, he considers it his sworn duty as the bearer of the popular mandate to do everything that is within the authority of his office to frustrate their evil intent and make the people's desire for a better life prevail.

President Macapagal also appointed this evening, former Congressman Manuel A. Concordia as member of the Social Security Commission. Concordia took his path this evening and is expected to report for duty tomorrow.

The new appointee will occupy the position, vice former Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Logarta, whose "midnight appointment to the SSS" was withdrawn, cancelled, and nullified by President Macapagal the other night.

Concordia was formerly a congressman representing Laguna and has been a law practitioner for the last 26 years. He got 12th place in the 1933 bar examinations.



**January 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal said today that to strengthen the Armed Forces all appointments and promotions of officers will be based on seniority, merit, and justice.

The President said these were the considerations behind his decision to appoint Lt. Gen. Pelagio A. Cruz as chief of staff to succeed Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, who has completed his three-year term.

The President received prolonged applause as he delivered a brief extemporaneous acceptance speech at the parade and pledge of loyalty given to him as commander-in-chief by the Armed Forces at the Camp Murphy parade grounds this morning.

The President appealed to the men in uniform to maintain endless vigilance in the face of a foreign ideology bent on world domination which is steadily extending a menacing hand towards the Philippines.

The President and the First Lady arrived at Camp Murphy at 9 a.m. and were given a 21-gun salute. Alighting from his car, the President, accompanied by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, was accorded military honors by an honor guard, while the band struck up the National Anthem.

After the ruffles and flourishes, the President proceeded slowly to the grandstand shaking the hands of a large mass of people who mobbed him, each trying to shake his hands.

As soon as the President appeared at the grandstand, the crowd around the parade grounds, gave a loud shout of *Mabuhay* and gave him a prolonged ovation. The President waived his spread-eagled hands in grateful acknowledgment, and then shook hands with Army top brass and officials of American military forces who had also come to witness the parade.

Then the President and Secretary Peralta left the grandstand and jumped into an Army jeep to troop the line before the start of the parade.

After trooping the line, the President proceeded to the grandstand, all the time waving to the people in acknowledgment of a rolling applause which subsided only after he had again mounted the platform.

After the ceremonies the President left the grandstand but again the crowd gathered around him and would not let him leave until after they had shaken his hand. The President spent some twenty minutes going around, after which he proceeded to his Laura residence in San Juan, Rizal.

Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova released today the text of Executive Order No. 1 issued by President Macapagal creating the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency.

The order was signed last December 30 after which President Macapagal swore into office Eleuterio Adevosos as presidential executive assistant who will head the new committee.

The new executive committee will take the place of the presidential committee of the same name which was abolished by former President Garcia last December 29, a day before the Nacionalista administration bowed out for the Liberal regime.

President Macapagal had earlier indicated the need for an "action" assistant to insure completion of special projects.

The committee was formed by the President "in order to achieve greater efficiency, competence, and dedication in the administration of government and to ensure the prompt and faithful performance of assigned duties, functions, and directives by the implementing government offices, agencies, and instrumentalities."

The committee will be directly responsible to the President. It will have such duties and functions as the President "may assign to it.

Under the executive order, the records, properties, and equipment of the defunct Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE) shall be turned over to the new presidential committee.

The office of the presidential executive assistant is an expanded version of the former PCAPE which will play a bigger role in getting things done under the new administration.

President Macapagal issued Executive Order No. 2, revoking the designation of the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* as the flagship of the Philippine Navy and ordering the sale of the vessel at public auction, it was announced by Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova today.

The order was issued in compliance with a pre-election promise made by the President all over the country in the course of his campaign tour. The P5 million yacht symbol of luxury and extravagance under the Garcia administration.

President Macapagal designated today Silvestre M. Punzalan as his proxy at the stockholders' meeting of the Philippine National Bank to be held on January 18 for the purpose of electing the nine members of the Board of Directors for the current year.

Punzalan, by virtue of his designation, will vote for the stocks owned by the government which amounts to 99.7 per cent.

The presidential proxy is the chairman of the board of the First National Surety and Assurance Company and member of several corporation boards. He is the senior partner of the Punzalan, Yabut, and Eusebio law firm" He specialized in civil aviation laws.

In 1949 Punzalan was a member of the Philippine panel which negotiated air treaties with India and Thailand.

President Macapagal was informed by Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno that the Department of Justice had filed a case with the city fiscal's office of Manila today against Cosme Garcia and six others.

The President congratulated Secretary Diokno for the expeditious manner with which he was implementing his campaign against graft.

The filing of the charge was in keeping with an announcement made by President Macapagal before assumption of office that among the first official acts of his administration would be to go after the "big fishes" who had taken advantage of their position and influence in accumulating wealth.

Diokno said that the case involved a violation of the corporation law of the Philippines by men high up in the family circles of the former Chief Executive.

This afternoon the President received renewed pledges of loyalty and support from the League of Liberal Governors and City Mayors.

The members of the League gave their pledges of loyalty during their call at Malacañang.

The President also received Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez and Chairman Pablo Lorenzo of the Development Bank of the Philippines, who conferred with him on official matters.

Among others who called on the President were Govs. Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Sur, D. S. Asis of Camarines Norte, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, A. Maleniza of Camarines Sur, F. San Luis of Laguna, and Malcolm G. Sarmiento of Zamboanga del Norte.

The President spent the morning working on important state papers at his Laura residence in San Juan, Rizal. At 4 p.m. he arrived at Malacañang and began receiving callers in his study room.

Later the President conferred with Executive Secretary Amelito Mutuc and Assistant Executive Secretaries Salvador Mariño and Rodrigo Perez, Jr., and Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

**January 3.**—EARLY this morning President Macapagal conferred with Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs Emmanuel Pelaez at his Laura Street residence in San Juan, Rizal, before going to Malacañang.

After receiving the Vice-President, who took up with him vital matters affecting the foreign office, and working on important state papers, the Chief Executive received Sen. Ferdinand Marcos, Rep. Manuel Cases, Rep. Antonio Raquiza, and Rep. Floro Crisologo.

The President and the First Lady motored to Malacañang at 10:30 a.m. Upon arrival the President conferred with his assistants on official matters while the First Lady received the officers and directors of the Catholic Women's League of the Philippines.

At noontime the President, dressed in a plain white shirt with long sleeves and accompanied by the First Lady, proceeded to the social hall where a 400-man delegation from Lanao provinces, and a smaller delegation from Zamboanga del Norte awaited the Chief Executive to pay their respects and give their pledge of loyalty and support.

The Lanao delegation was headed by Gov. Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, Ex-Gov. Mandangan Dimacuta of Lanao del Sur, Vice-Gov. Valerio Rovera of Lanao del Norte, and a big number of municipal mayors and sultans.

Heading the Zamboanga del Norte delegation were former Rep. Felipe Azcuna, Ex-Gov. Romulo Garrovillo, Board Member Godson Lood, Judge Manuel Dalma of Jolo, Mayor Rodolfo Cabe of Dapitan, and Vice-Mayor Conception Dalma, of Dapitan.

Also in the group was Felix Tuanda, an LP inspector who had just recuperated from three bullet wounds which were inflicted on him by a policeman during the election.

Tuanda was going to the polls at 6: 30 a.m. on Election Day when he was accosted and shot three times by a policeman in barrio Maras, Sindangan, because he refused to obey the peace officer who tried to prevent him from going.

Another member of the delegation was Fortunate Sales, LP chairman in Rizal, Zamboanga del Norte, who was mauled by a man belonging to the rival faction last December 3.

After receiving the delegations and posing with them several times for souvenir pictures, the President and the First Lady returned to their private residence in San Juan for luncheon.

President Macapagal this morning received Judge Minerva Inocencio Piguing and Dean Leodegario Alba, who called to return their midnight appointment" papers as judges of courts of first instance which were signed by former President Garcia on the eve of his departure from Malacañang.

In returning their appointments, the appointees explained they had decided to turn in their papers as they believed "it is the decent thing to do." They said they had considered the appointments extended to them on the strength of assurances that it would not involve politics.

In view however of the fact that the appointments were made together with others which were patently inspired by political considerations, they were returning them to the President "for your disposition" and in compliance with Administrative Order No. 2, revoking and recalling "midnight" appointments.

Judge Piguing of the municipal court of Quezon City had been named by former President Garcia as judge of the court of first instance of Bulacan while Dean Alba of the University of Manila had been appointed to the court of first instance of Marinduque. The appointments were issued on the night of December 29, the eve of President Macapagal's inauguration.

The President today instructed Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., to advise him whenever any unit of the Armed Forces is assigned, to perform work "beyond its normal functions."

The President expressed appreciation to the defense secretary for showing concern over the security situation in the Central Bank premises. The Chief Executive also reiterated his full confidence in Secretary Peralta.

President Macapagal stated today that the controversy over the last-minute appointees rests on former President Garcia and those in league with him for the reason that it was Mr. Garcia who had committed the act of making the appointments which was "contrary to good government."

The President took issue with claims emanating from certain quarters that all the appointees were qualified, saying that former Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona is not qualified to be governor of the Central Bank, as section 7 of the banks charter requires that "The governor and the deputy governor of the Central Bank must be of recognized competence in the field of banking."

"Mr. Aytona has no banking experience, much less 'recognized' competence, the President said.

The President said he agrees with the contention that the Central Bank governor is not a political position. "It is for this reason that I deplore the act of Mr. Garcia of appointing Aytona, who is a rabid Nacionalista partisan and who is known to be politically antagonistic to the new administration," he added.

"That is why upon cancelling the appointment of Mr. Aytona, I appointed Mr. Castillo, who is not a politician but a highly respected career official, the President stressed.

The Chief Executive also pointed out that "the economic sabotage" involved in the Aytona appointment was admitted by Aytona himself when the former finance secretary issued the following statement:

"I had refused the offer several times before but President Garcia called me to a meeting with the council of leaders and appealed to me to accept the post because the decontrol program, which was initiated by the Nacionalista Party, is now on its last stage and they want me to direct the final program towards full decontrol."

President Garcia's purpose in appointing Aytona, therefore, was to continue their own version of the decontrol program over the new administration's own economic program, President Macapagal said

He continued: "This is a plain sabotage of the people's will because Mr. Aytona's project is to carry out the decontrol program of a defeated President over and above the economic program of the President who was elected by the people."

President Macapagal expressed regret that by Mr. Garcia's act, politics has engulfed the approach, to solve the country's economic problems. He reiterated that he has no interest in political squabbles because he has no more political ambitions.

"But I am deeply interested in strengthening the country's economy because it is only thus that the people can achieve better life," he added.

President Macapagal stated that if the attempt to sabotage the new administration by the former President had been confined to appointments affecting political matters, he would not have been so concerned, but MR. Garcia extended this to the economic field where it affects vitally the livelihood of the people.

The President pointed out that although he has desired harmonious collaboration with the leaders of the Nacionalista Party, he would give paramount emphasis on the need of bringing health to the national economy.

“I regard the result of the elections as a mandate of the people to the Liberal administration and it is my responsibility to carry out this mandate for the welfare of our people,” the President emphasized.

He concluded: “In the discharge of this responsibility, I will not compromise because I cannot be unfaithful to our people. Those who insist on endlessly playing politics at the sacrifice of the economic well-being and livelihood of our people shall answer to our sovereign people for their wanton disregard of, the nation’s welfare at the proper time.”

This afternoon President Macapagal appointed five more officials under the new administration, it was announced by Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

Appointed were former Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda as chairman of the National Economic Council, former Rep. Tecla San Andres Ziga as social welfare administrator, Finance Undersecretary Fernando E. V. Sison as acting secretary of finance, Ernesto V. Santos as member of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank and former Rep. Medina Lacson de Leon as undersecretary of commerce.

Secretary Sison and Monetary Board Member Santos took their oaths of office before the President in ceremonies held at Malacañang this afternoon. Present at the inductions were Mrs. Fernando Sison and other immediate relatives of the inductees.

The present set-up in the Department of Commerce calls for two undersecretaries. Former Rep. de Leon replaces Undersecretary Perfecto E. Laguio who had retired. The other undersecretary will be chosen from the ranks of the department.

This evening President Macapagal called members of the presidential special committee on the rice and corn industries to a meeting at Malacañang and discussed with them the main guidepost of the short and long range production program. The Committee was directed by the President to finalize the program.

Discussion centered on ways and means of insuring self-sufficiency. The President expressed his desire to keep the price of the cereals within the reach of the masses while giving the producers an attractive margin of profit, as spelled out in his pre-election program of government.

Another phase of the program discussed by the President and the committee members was a better distribution system from center of production to the market.

Committee members present at the conference were Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, chairman; and Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison; Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, and ACCFA Administrator Vicente Araneta, members. Another member of the committee, ex-Rep. Jose Feliciano of Tarlac, was unable to attend the conference.

**January 4.**—THIS morning President Macapagal administered the oaths of office to a number of high officials at Malacañang before a large crowd of officials, relatives, and friends of the inductees. Among those who took their oaths were:

- (1) Mrs. Tecla San Andres-Ziga, wife of Rep. Ziga, as social welfare administrator;
- (2) Jacinto Borja, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Philippines;
- (3) Melchor Aquino, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Philippines;

(4) Mrs. Juanita L. Nepomuceno, wife of Pampanga Governor Francisco Nepomuceno, as representative of the first district of Pampanga;

(5) Venancio Ziga, as representative of the first district of Albay; and

(6) Ramon Bagatsing who had been reelected representative of Manila. The President, in ordinary white shirt with long sleeves, administered the oaths shortly upon arrival at Malacañang at 10:30 a.m.

After the oath-taking ceremonies the President received Reps. Cornelio T. Villareal and Gerardo Roxas of Capi.

The President also received a delegation of the Macapagal-Pelaez Club of America who brought to his attention the problems of Filipinos who had settled in the United States.

Meanwhile, the President and the First Lady continue to receive pledges of support and felicitations from large delegations who flock to Malacañang daily. Among those who saw the President this morning at the social hall were:

(1) Leyte del Sur and Leyte del Norte delegation headed by Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Jr.;

(2) Romblon delegation headed by Gov. Antonio Mayuga, Vice-Gov. Jovencio Q. Mayor, Board Member Livy Romero, and all the town mayors;

(3) Sulu delegation led by Gov. Benjamin Abubakar, Ex-Rep. Ombra Amilbangsa, Board Member Putli Amilbangsa, Mayor Hussein Lao, Judge Jainal Rasul, Hadji Jayri Hawary, Deputy Gov. Landasan Jubail, and their ladies;

(4) Samar delegation led by Provincial LP Chairman Esteban Pecson, Judge Juan Bocar, Segundo Vargas, Vicente Dira, and others; and

(5) Bicol delegation led by Rep. and Mrs. Venancio Ziga, Gov. and Mrs. Apolonio Malineza of Camarines Sur, Register of Deeds Filemon Odiamar of Camarines Sur, Manuel T. Leelin, and many others.

The President and Mrs. Macapagal spent a full hour greeting the delegations and posing with them for souvenir pictures as they practically mobbed the First Couple, letting them off only at about 1 p.m., when they motored back to their Laura Street residence in San Juan, Rizal, for lunch.

President Macapagal called Health Secretary Francisco Q. Duque to a breakfast conference at his San Juan, Rizal, residence to discuss measures to be adopted to check the spread of *El Tor* disease which was reported prevalent in some parts of the country.

Secretary Duque recommended the immediate release by the Central Bank of the amount of \$200,000 to purchase medicines until production by local pharmaceutical companies can fill local requirements.

In order to spur local production of needed medicines, Secretary Duque also recommended to President Macapagal the allocation and immediate release to local drug companies of \$75,000 to enable them to import materials for the manufacture of medicines to combat the disease.

The President decided to tap the UNICEF and the U. S. government in order to procure immediately needed medicines. Secretary Duque indicated that they had expressed willingness to cooperate with the efforts of the administration to stamp out the disease.

The President today received Capt. Simeon Castro, who returned his appointment paper as commanding officer of the Philippine Navy.

Capt. Castro's appointment papers were signed by the then President Garcia last December 29, on the eve of the latter's departure from Malacañang.

In accepting the papers, President Macapagal said Capt. Castro demonstrated the high brand of discipline and loyalty of the Armed Forces to their commander-in-chief.

After receiving Capt. Castro, President Macapagal conferred with Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., of National Defense and Lt. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, AFP chief of staff, and stressed that in matters pertaining to promotions of officers and enlisted men and in purely military matters, the officers and personnel of the Armed Forces do not have to get "sponsors".

The President added that said officers and enlisted men should take up the matter with their immediate superiors or with Secretary Peralta.

In case they still feel that they were not given justice, they can appeal to me as their commander-in-chief, the President added.

The President took the opportunity to restate the policy he enunciated last Tuesday in an address at Camp Murphy before AFP officers and men that he would adhere strictly to the rule of seniority, merit, and justice in the promotion of AFP personnel.

At the same time, Secretary Peralta informed President Macapagal that he had directed Gen. Cruz to designate Capt. Castro as "officer in charge" of the Philippine Navy.

The President also received today the "midnight appointment" of Eduardo Taylor, Jr., who had been named by then President Garcia as member of the board of directors of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation last December 29.

Taylor's appointment paper is one of a number of such appointments returned to the incumbent President for his disposition. Others included those of Judge Minerva Inocencio Piguing of the Quezon City municipal court and Dean Leodegario Alba of the University of Manila, who had been appointed, by then President Garcia as judges, of the courts of first instance of Bulacan and Marinduque, respectively.

Meanwhile, Sen. Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo vehemently denied reports that Liberal Party leaders in Bulacan had flayed the President for not having appointed a Bulakeño to a key position in the government. It was pointed out that Lieut. Gen. Pelagio A. Cruz, who was recently named chief of staff of the Armed Forces, is a Bulakeño.

The President today directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to allocate necessary funds for the increase of salaries of janitors and low-salaried employees of the government, pursuant to the WAPCO pay plan.

About 300,000 government employees, including janitors and teachers, stand to benefit from the presidential directive.

The President directed Sy-Changco to peg the salary increase to P10.00 a month for those receiving P200 a month and below. This would specially benefit employees receiving P120 a month who under the usual WAPCO pay plan would only receive an increase of P6 a month.

However, Sy-Changco informed the President, employees receiving more than P200 a month will get an increase of 5 per cent of their basic pay, according to the WAPCO pay plan. The whole pay boost would involve P37 million.

In another directive, President Macapagal ordered the immediate release of P146,000 from the funds of the Department of Health and earmarked the amount for the intensive campaign he ordered against *El Tor* disease.

The President also directed the Presidential Guard Battalion that during office hours the public should not be required to get passes in order to enter Malacañang.

**January 5.**—THIS morning President Macapagal administered the oath of office to five key officials in the Department of Commerce, and Industry and the Department of Foreign Affairs in separate ceremonies held at the Malacañang reception hall.

Former Rep. Medina Lacson de Leon of Bataan was inducted as Undersecretary for Commerce in the presence of Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal, relatives and close friends, and Bataan LP leaders, among them Gov. Pedro Dizon, Provincial Board Member Toribio Siason, and Mesdames Lucia Hilali, Simplicia Berenguer, and Concepcion Buenconsejo.

Earlier the President inducted Ambassadors Emilio Abello, Mauro Mendez, Jose D. Ingles, and Narciso Reyes before Vice-President and concurrent Secretary of Foreign Affairs Emmanuel Pelaez, Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez, Ambassadors Roberto Regala and Melchor Aquino, and Minister Librado D. Cayco.

Ambassador Ingles, assigned to Bonn, West Germany, and Ambassador Reyes were promoted in rank. Reyes was formerly P. I. minister to Burma.

Mendez' rank was likewise elevated from minister to ambassador.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal continued receiving callers and delegations from the provinces, mostly from the Visayas and Mindanao, that came to greet the new President and discuss local problems.

One of the delegations which attracted attention was the one from Bohol led by former Tagbilaran Mayor Pedro Belderol, Bohol LP chairman; and former NAMARCO Director German Neri, who congratulated President Macapagal for his victory. Other Bohol delegates were Mayor Pedro Bulac of Dawis, Roque Luspo, Bonifacio Belderol, Judge Juan Butalid, Cesar Ceballos, Mayor Vicente Boncalles of Trinidad, and Vice-Mayor Santiago Baguio of Albur.

The Cotabato delegation was led by Datu Mama Sinsuat, Datu Mantil Dilangalen, Mrs. Lucy Omila, and Mrs. Lutgarda Sion.

Other delegations came from Cavite, Aklan, Negros Oriental, Zamboanga del Norte, Cagayan de Oro, and Surigao del Sur.

Individual callers included Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa and Camilo Osias, Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Occidental Negros, former Gov. Calixto Zaldivar of Antique, former Gov. Mateo Pecson of Masbate, former Senator Ramon Torres, and Reps. Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte and Vicente L. Pimentel of Surigao del Sur.

This evening the President upheld the prerogatives of the presidency by declaring that "I cannot countenance the imposition of congressional dictatorship over the Executive, as desired by certain congressional leaders, without forsaking the well-being of the people who gave me a clear mandate to solve the economic problems of the country and bring about a better life for all."

The President also differentiated the attitude between political leaders or the country by saying: "It is the aim of the present NP leaders to win the elections in 1963 and 1965 regardless of what happens to the people, while it is our aim to serve the people regardless of what happens to us, politically, in 1963 and 1965."



**January 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received for the first time today members of the Malacañang Newsmen's Association which is composed of reporters who cover the Palace beat.

The President joined by the First Lady, came in a long-sleeved polo shirt to the surprise of the Malacañang newsmen who were asked by Press President greeted the Malacañang newsmen "Happy Three Kings" and gave them his line of thinking on the current controversy.

He appealed to the reporters to be fair with him, and invited them to become members of "my official family".

President Macapagal, who is living on a limited budget amounting to P36.11 left by the Garcia administration, served omelet, *adobo*, and coffee. The "simple living" menu, had greatly dented the remaining outlay for the Malacañang household.

Newsmen saw Governor Andres Castillo who did not go to the CB, as it was Saturday. They jokingly informing him that former Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona had gone to the CB. Also at the Palace was acting Secretary of Finance Fernando E. V. Sison and Rep. Cornelio T. Villareal.

In the evening President Macapagal motored to the Malacañang press office where he played pocket billiards with the reporters. Accompanied by Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal and their children, the President passed by the press office on their way home. He played for 20 minutes to relax after a hard day. He showed "promise," according to the experts who watched him play.

Malacañang revealed that President Macapagal has been notified by the Manila Gas Corporation Savings and Loan Association (MAGASCO) that it is placing at his disposal the projected sale to them of government shares in the firm which had been approved by the outgoing Cabinet at its last meeting last December 27.

Signed by Tomas P. Manaois, chairman of the MAGASCO, which is made up of the firm's employees who had for six years sought to purchase the government share, the letter urged President Macapagal to have the transaction re-studied by his staff.

"Should you find it in order, Mr. President, and give it your final approval, we may then be allowed to proceed with its implementation," Manaois said.

The outgoing Cabinet, at its last meeting presided by then President Garcia, had stamped its approval on the sale to MAGASCO workers of 15,000 shares of stock held by the National Development Company for P6,247,404.19, the book value of the shares as of October 31, 1961, "subject to any adjustment that may be made by the auditor general."

This approval was patently in defiance of the request made by then President-elect Macapagal to freeze all major government transactions except those that were urgent and necessary.

The NDC-owned shares represent 60 per cent of the firm's capitalization totaling P2.5 million. The remaining 40 per cent consisting of 10,000 shares are held by the Island Gas Electric Company of Maryland, U. S. A.

Although the transaction had been given official blessing by the Garcia administration, the Magasco workers preferred to leave the whole plan entirely in the hands of President Macapagal.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58(2), xi-xxv.

## **President's Week in Review: January 14-20, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**January 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal demonstrated his keen interest in the participation of the rural population in the affairs of government as he cut short his one-day rest at the Guest House in Baguio to observe the elections of barrio council officials in surrounding localities of Baguio today.

Accompanied by Mrs. Macapagal the President motored down to the Pico Central School in La Trinidad, Benguet, Mt. Province, and other nearby barrios where elections for council officials were in full swing.

The Chief Executive stayed in each place for some time, watching barrio folks fill up their ballots and eagerly exercising their right to choose the men and women who will run the affairs of their barrios for the year.

Among others who accompanied the President were Rep. Alfredo Lamin. Baguio Vice-Mayor Norberto de Guzman, Councilor Jose Florendo and Elmer Cotina, Sr., and Barrio Lieutenant Marcelo Demetrio.

The President recalled that as member of Congress, he had successfully brought about the enactment of a provision in the law giving barrio councils the power to promulgate regulations having the force of an ordinance within the boundary of the barrio with the approval of the municipal council.

During the last presidential campaign, the President had consistently advocated more autonomy for the local governments, particularly for the municipalities and barrios, "not only as a matter of sound democratic doctrine but also because of my conviction that such a type of government proximately exercised by the people themselves is the most effective way of accelerating progress in our remote towns and barrios."

Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc today ordered a full-dress investigation of alleged "highly irregular" disbursement of government funds for rat extermination in Iloilo province which had been released by the Garcia administration shortly before the last elections.

The Executive Secretary, issued the order following receipt of complaints from a number of Iloilo residents who called his attention to local newspaper accounts of the alleged irregularity.

In a telegram received by President Macapagal in Malacañang one Celso Tabobo of that city also denounced the alleged "anomalous disbursement" of P28.160 out of P140,000 released by then President Garcia from his contingent fund before the elections.

Secretary Mutuc wired the provincial fiscal of Iloilo to conduct an immediate investigation and to submit a report of his findings to the Office of the President through the Department of Justice as soon as possible.

Suspensions of certain quarters in Iloilo had been aroused when two payrolls amounting to P28.160 for the payment of wages of 380 persons allegedly hired to exterminate rats were presented for payments only more than two months after the supposed services had been rendered.

**January 15.**—EARLY this morning President Macapagal returned from a two-day stay in Baguio, where he was reported to have rested during the week-end. It was presumed he left the Pines City about one or two o'clock this morning.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady and their two children, returned to their private residence on Laura Street, San Juan, Rizal, at 5 o'clock this morning.

At 10 o'clock a.m., the President motored to Malacañang where he conferred with Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc and Assistant Executive Rodrigo Perez, Jr., on pending state matters.

The President received some unlisted callers, but Malacañang did not identify them.

The President closeted himself in his study room and started working on his state-of-the-nation address.

Until press time this evening President Macapagal was still reported in the Palace working on his address which he will deliver at the opening day of the regular session of Congress on January 22.

President Macapagal issued today four proclamations setting certain periods for the observance of "Accountancy Week", and for fund raising campaigns of various charitable organizations. The proclamations signed by the Chief Executive were:

- (1) Proclamation No. 1, declaring the period from January 29 to February 3 this year as "Accountancy Week;"
- (2) Proclamation No. 2, declaring the period from February 4 to 10 this year as "Aid to the Blind and Handicapped Week;"
- (3) Proclamation No. 3, authorizing the Children's Museum and Library to conduct a national educational, membership, and fund campaign during the period from February 1 to March 15 this year; and
- (4) Proclamation No. 4, declaring the period from February 14 to March 31 this year for the Fifteenth Annual Fund Campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross.

In signing Proclamation No. 1, the President said that by reason of the vantage positions they occupy in the field of business, finance, and industry, public accountants have contributed immensely to the progress of the national economy. It is only fitting that this important role played by them be brought to the attention of the public, he added.

Republic Act No. 1179, authorizes the President to set aside an annual fund raising week for the blind and handicapped. The fund will constitute a trust fund under the administration and supervision of the Social Welfare Administration by virtue of Proclamation No. 2.

Under Proclamation No. 3, the fund to be realized by the children's museum and library will be devoted to the procurement of facilities, aimed at providing opportunities to cultivate the "talents and other faculties of potential leaders of our future generation."

Proclamation No. 4, which sets aside the fund-raising period of the PNRC, authorizes all national, provincial, city, municipal, and barrio government officials and school authorities, to accept PNRC fund raising responsibilities. The proclamation also urges them to take the initiative and active leadership in the fund campaign in their respective jurisdictions.

The President issued today Executive Order No. 3, extending the prohibition to slaughter carabaos up to December 31 this year. He issued the order so as to conserve "our beasts of burden" for agricultural purposes, particularly in view of the rice and corn program of his administration which is designed to insure self-sufficiency in these staple commodities within the next few years.

The slaughter ban was first imposed by the late President Magsaysay because of the depletion of work animals during the war.

This evening the President appointed five additional key officials of his administration. Appointed were:

1. Paulino Cases as undersecretary for transportation and communications, and concurrently acting secretary of public works and communications;

2. Esteban Picson as undersecretary of agriculture;
3. Jose Feliciano as board member of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration;
4. Omar Dianalan as associate commissioner of national integration;
5. Jose B. Lingad as chairman of the Games and Amusements Board.

As acting secretary of public works and communications, Cases replaces Marciano Bautista whose wish to retire from the public service was given due course by the President.

Cases is a mining engineer in the Benguet Consolidated. Topping the board examinations for mining engineer in 1953, he has since been connected with a number of mining companies, with the War Damage Commission and the Development Bank of the Philippines (RFC).

Picson is a businessman from Catbalogan, Samar. He had been a public school teacher, municipal councilor, and later mayor of his town. He is president and general manager of two private companies.

Feliciano is former representative of Tarlac. Recently he was appointed-member member of the Board of Directors of the National Rice and Corn Corporation.

The only Muslim who passed the tough bar examination in 1957, Dianalan had been president of the Non-Christian Students' Pensionados Association, president of the Muslim Students' Pensionados of Mindanao and Sulu, and consistent class president during his student days.

In appointing Lingad, the President instructed the former Pampanga governor to "clean up the mess" in the GAB which is charge with the supervision of games and where fixing and gambling have entered the picture.

The President also instructed Lingad to investigate reports that gangsters using strong-arm methods have terrorized boxers to give away fights.

A sports enthusiasts, Lingad was former featherweight champion during his days at the University of the Philippines. As Pampanga governor, he had established a record as an efficient and topnotch administrator.

President Macapagal directed Executive Secretary Amelito E. Mutuc today to circularize all offices under the Executive Department on the policy of his administration to eliminate completely the "long system" in the government service.

In his directive the President emphasized the importance of informing officially all officials and employees of his determination to establish the moral atmosphere under which the new administration intends to carry out its socio-economic program "for the benefit of all our people."

In a conference with business leaders at Malacañang last week, the President had announced that any public official or employee who receives money in consideration for the grant of any right, privilege, or service to a citizen will be fired and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

The President also made a general appeal for the public to expose persons who represent themselves as "fixers" or agents for any government official or employee to facilitate transactions in order that they could be arrested and prosecuted.

**January 16.**—HAVING spent his first night in Malacañang yesterday, the President spent a busy day today together with his family. The President woke up early and read the morning newspapers. He had breakfast with Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal and their children.

The President's first caller this morning was Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson of Manila, who discussed city affairs with the Chief Executive.

The Chief Executive then spent some time reading a telegram from former Acting Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista, who expressed his deep appreciation to the Chief Executive "for your having kindly extend to my humble person the privilege of working under your leadership." Bautista further told the President: "I will forever treasure your kindness in having bestowed in me that much confidence.

The retired public works secretary also reported to the President the completion of the plan for the Administration's four-year public work program which is geared to the economic development of the country.

Director Robert F. Chandler, Jr., of the International Rice Research Institute in Los Baños, Laguna, was another caller of the Chief Executive.

Chandler was accompanied by Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon. During his conference with Chandler, the President expressed gratification over the establishment of the institute saying it would aid immensely his administration's rice and corn program designed to achieve self-sufficiency in these staple commodities in a few years.

Later this morning the President received Reps. Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur, Felicisimo Ocampo of Nueva Ecija and Manuel Cases of La Union, who took up with him matters affecting their respective districts. Sen. Estanislao Fernandez and Gov. Eulogio de Guzman of La Union also conferred with the President this morning.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive administered the oath of office to three ranking government officials in simple ceremonies at Malacañang. Inducted into office by the President were Bernardino Abes as undersecretary of labor, Dr. Rodolfo T. Caños as undersecretary of health for special services, and former Rep. Jose Y. Feliciano of Tarlac as director of the National Rice and Corn Corporation (NARIC) and member of the board of governors of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration (ACCFA).

Then the President had a *merienda* conference with representatives of the sugar industry with whom he discussed the problems affecting the industry. He assured the sugar industry representatives that he would take immediate steps to convey to the United States government the position of the Philippine government, on the proposed global sugar quota system. He also said that the conference was only the first of a series of conferences with the sugar industry representatives to discuss the problems of the industry.

Present at the two-hour conference were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Acting Sugar Quota Administrator Edgardo Yap, and Ernesto V. Santos of the Monetary Board.

The millers' group representing the Philippine Sugar Association was composed of Manuel Elizalde, Ernesto Escaller, Alfonso Dampier, Pedro Cojuangco, Tirso Revilla, and Jose Romero. The representatives of the planters group (National Federation of Sugar Cane Planters) were Jose Ma. Gomez, Gerry Rodriguez, Ramon Nolan, and Amado Garcia.

In the evening the President issued an order nullifying the decision of former President Garcia, dated July 29, 1961, authorizing the importation of 4.5 million kilos of foreign Virginia leaf tobacco by the Agro-Industrial Products, Inc.

Once again, the Malacañang household came to life as the First Family finally moved in last night, more than two weeks after President Macapagal's inauguration. During these two weeks, redecorations had to be made to suit the modest tastes of the new tenants.

The President and the First Lady have occupied the suite formerly used by Presidents Quezon, Osmeña, Roxas, and Garcia, and their ladies at the north wing of the Palace. Presidents Quirino and Magsaysay did not occupy this suite, as they preferred the guests rooms located at the east wing of the Palace.

Before last night, the President and the First Lady had been commuting morning and afternoon between their private residence at 108 Laura, San Juan, Rizal, and the President's office in Malacañang to attend to affairs of state. Except in the few occasions when the First Couple received visiting dignitaries or held important breakfast, luncheon, or dinner conferences at Malacañang they had to go home to San Juan for all their meals.

The President stayed up until late last night. He closeted himself in his private study where he went over reports submitted by department secretaries on materials for possible inclusion in his state-of-the-nation address to be delivered before congress when it convenes next week.

**January 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had several official callers today.

The Chief Executive woke up early and read the morning newspapers. He then had an early breakfast with administrator of the Office of Economic Coordination and concurrently Customs Commissioner Cesar Climaco and Acting Public Works Secretary Paulino Cases. The President discussed with his guests matters concerning their respective departments.

After his breakfast with the two members of his Cabinet, the President received Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Rep. Eladio Caliwara of Quezon. Assistant Executive Secretary Salvador Mariño, and Public Works Undersecretary Rafael Contreras.

In the afternoon the President inducted into office former Pampanga Gov. Jose B. Lingad as chairman of the Games and Amusement Board. Those who witnessed the simple ceremony were Assistant Executive Secretaries Mariño and Rodrigo Perez and Manila Councilor Pete de Jesus.

Following the induction, the President held a brief conference with Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc, Assistant Executive Secretary Perez, Jr., and Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

The President then received the following callers: Reps, Fidel Santiago of Manila, William Chiongbin of Misamis Occidental, and Jovito R. Salonga of Rizal; Gov. Antonio Mayuga of Romblon; and former Gov Silvestre Punzalan, PNB chairman-designate.

In the evening the President worked on materials for possible inclusion in his state-of-the-nation address before Congress.

**January 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal made a surprise visit Bureau of Customs this morning. He arrived at the waterfront at 10:45 a.m., accompanied by Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, presidential aides, and newsmen.

The presidential visit caught customs personnel by surprise and even Customs Commissioner Cesar Climaco was not on hand to welcome the Chief Executive. Climaco rushed to the piers from his other office of Economic Coordination to join the President some 20-minutes later.

Noting the shabby conditions of the offices he visited, the President ordered Commissioner Climaco to have the entire building spruced up.

From the Customs building the President' proceeded to a bodega at Pier 7, across the street, which houses part of the 7,000 hogsheads of impounded Virginia leaf tobacco. He was also shown by Climaco one of several boxes containing fancy jewelry which the importer had declared as personal effects, by way of familiarizing him with the modus operandi employed by smugglers.

After the visit the President chatted briefly with Malacañang newsmen who accompanied him, and then boarded a security car and proceeded to a private hideout where he conferred with government fiscal experts on budget estimates for the next fiscal year.

President Macapagal announced today four additional appointments, as follows:

- (1) Former Justice Secretary Jose P. Bengzon as cmef of the Reparations Mission in Japan, in place of Career Minister Caezar Z. Lanuza, who will be given another assignment in the foreign service;
- (2) Former Governor Calixto Zaldivar of Antique as reparations commissioner, to fill one of the two vacancies created by R. A. 3079, which increases the composition of the Reparations Commission from the present three to five commissioners;
- (3) Abelardo Subido as presidential graft buster; and
- (4) Former District Engineer Jose Lachica as chief of the Motor Vehicles Administration.

The President also instructed Economic Coordinator Cesar C. Climaco to request the MRR board to appoint Col. Julian Chavez as general manager of the Manila Port Service. The last general manager of the MPS was Francisco Calinawan who retired last December 31.

Press Secretary Hechanova said the decision to transfer Minister Lanuza was made following a conference between the President and Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez.

**January 19.**—DURING breakfast this morning President Macapagal conferred with Fowler Hamilton, administrator of the new United States Agency for International Development.

The new foreign aid agency combines the activities of the former International Cooperation Administration, the Development Loan Fund, and the local currency-lending activities of the Export-Import Bank.

Hamilton said he had come to see how the United States can lay the basis with the government of the Philippines for "decade development" in this country.

He said that his mission is to examine the progress of the AID efforts at first hand and confer with AID personnel in the Orient as well as with Tanking government officials here.

Present during the breakfast were Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez; National Economic Council Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda; Minister John Gordon Mein, charge d'affairs of the United States Embassy here; Stephan Ives; Director Henry L. T. Koren of the office of Southeast Asian Affairs (Department of State); William Ellis; AID program officer for the Far East; Minister Paul D. Summers of the United States Operations Mission in Manila; and Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr.

President Macapagal administered the oaths of office to three members of the National Economic Council, nine foreign service officials, and the chief of the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee in separate ceremonies held at Malacañang this morning.

Inducted NEC members were Eugenio Padua of the Philippine Engineering Corporation; Arturo V. Tanco, Sr., former NARIC general manager and an authority on rice; and Carlos Santiago, president of the Labor Lawyers' Guild.

Others inducted were: (1) Abelardo Subido as chief of the presidential anti-graft committee; (2) Benjamin Tirona and Librado Cayco as ambassadors of the Philippines; (3) Pelagio Llamas, Vicente Singian, Emilio Bejasa, Maximo Bueno, and Bartolome Umayan as career ministers and chiefs of missions, Class III; and (4) Generoso Provido and Alberto Katigbak as consuls general.

In another ceremony, President Macapagal administered the oath of office to Porfirio G. Comia as vice-governor of Oriental Mindoro, vice Rodrigo Ignacio, and to Manuel Marcos as mayor of Naujan, vice Comia, in the presence of a large delegation headed by Rep. Luciano Joson.

Ignacio became the governor of Oriental Mindoro when the then provincial executive, Luciano Joson, ran for Congress.

This evening the President announced the appointment of eight more key officials in different government agencies.

Appointed by the President were:

(1) Ex-Rep. Benedicto Padilla of Rizal, engineer-economist, as chairman of the Board of Directors, Manila Railroad Company;

(2) Gov. Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, as member, Board of Directors of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation.

(3) Vice-Gov. Pedro Peralta of La Union, as director of the Government Service Insurance System;

(4) Capt. Vicente Rivera, Jr. as civil aeronautics administrator, a position he is at present occupying in an acting capacity;

(5) Former Rep. Cesar Miraflor, as member of the Civil Service Board of Appeals;

(6) Pablo Pe Benito of Abra, as commissioner of the Social Security System;

(7) Otilio Gorospe of Ilocos Sur, as member of the Home Financing Commission, vice Oscar Calvento whose resignation was earlier accepted by the President; and

(8) Antonio Diaz, as member of the Land Tenure Commission in place of Julian de Vera, whose resignation had also been accepted by the President

President Macapagal today referred to the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee the charge filed against four ranking officials of the office of the President Assistant on Community Development (PACD).

The President took this action following his conference with Gov. Jose G. Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, who called at Malacañang this morning to press for the immediate investigation of the cases.

During the call Gov. Espino politely declined the offer of the President to head the PACD office, saying that it was a full-time job and that he would like to continue serving his constituents. He indicated, however, his readiness to accept a part-time job so that he could at the same time serve his province.



Gov. Espino also requested President Macapagal to make proper representations with the Agency for International Development (formerly ICA) of the postponement of the scheduled departure of two AID officials namely Richard Benhart and Robert Morrow, in order that they could testify in the investigation of the PACD anomalies,

Citing the two American advisers on community development as witnesses, Gov. Espino requested a full-dress investigation of the following charges:

- (1) The alleged loss of P1,240,000 owing to overpricing of a total purchase of P4,000.000 as revealed in the first GAO report on PACD operations for the 1960-61 fiscal year;
- (2) The anomalous transactions allegedly consummated between the PACD and the Farm Tools Company, which was partly owned by Juan Binamira, a brother of the former head of the PACD office;
- (3) The cement transaction between the PACD and the Hap Hong Hardware in which P30,000 was supposedly given to top PACD officials in consideration of the assured purchase by the PACD of 130,000 bags of cement from the Hap Hong Hardware, according to revelation made by one of the accomplices in his report of the GAO;
- (4) The reported loss, as per finding of the GAO, of about P150, 000 worth of CARE aid to the PACD and P30,000 worth of photographic materials; and
- (5) The million-peso purchases of construction materials allegedly without the benefit of canvassing and/or public bidding, and prior knowledge and plans as to where, how, and when said materials will be used and supposedly with collusions with favored bidders and suppliers.

Malacañang today directed ACCFA Administrator Vicente Araneta to take necessary steps to assist Cotabato farmers market their corn produce. The Chief Executive issued the directive through Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc, who informed him that corn crops mostly in Tupi, Cotabato, are rotting because of lack of buyers.

A telegram from one Max Cañeda of Tupi, reported to Malacañang that despite offer by farmers to sell their corn at a low price, nobody seemed to be interested to purchase their produce. The “ten centavo” telegram of Cañeda prompted the Chief Executive to call the attention of the ACCFA.

At the same tune the President instructed Secretary Mutuc to remind the people particularly those from the rural areas, to avail themselves of the “ten centavo” telegram in bringing their problems, grievances, or complaints to the attention of the authorities so the proper remedial measures could be instituted immediately.

**January 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal occupied himself with official matters, the whole day Saturday.

Topping the President’s activities of the day was the special Cabinet meeting he, called at. 3 p.m., barely two hours, after the arrival of the Philippine technical mission to the United States, headed by Acting Secretary of Finance Fernando E. V. Sison.

The first visitor of the Chief Executive this morning was a friends who delivered a personal letter from General Emilio Aguinaldo to the President. Gen. Aguinaldo is confined at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

The President also received this morning Rep. Apolinario Marasigan of Batangas, who congratulated the Chief Executive for his victory in the presidential elections. Other callers were Rep. Cornelio Villareal of Capiz and former Rep. Hermenegildo Atienza, who had been appointed legal assistant in Malacañang. The President spent the rest of the morning working on his state-of-the-nation address.

Early this afternoon the President inducted into office in separate ceremonies former Antique Governor Calixto Zaldivar, as reparations commissioner, and former Rep. Cesar Mirafior, as member of the Civil Service Board of Appeals.

The President then received Acting Finance Secretary Sison and Central Bank Governor Andres V. Castillo, chairman and member, respectively, of the five-man technical mission sent to Washington by the President. Secretary Sison and Governor Castillo arrived from the United States at past 12 noon today, together with Benito Legarda, Jr., secretary to the mission.

Before presiding over the special Cabinet meeting, the President took a brief time out to shake hands and pose for souvenir pictures with a delegation from his hometown. The President's townspeople came to Malacañang to greet him.

In the evening, the President issued a statement expressing his gratification over the decision of the Supreme Court on the governorship of the Central Bank and the midnight appointments of former President Garcia. The President said that the high tribunal had shown "legal erudition and judicial statesmanship."

The full text of the President's statement follows:

"I am gratified that the Supreme Court has shown legal erudition and judicial statesmanship.

"The Supreme Court decision in the case involving the Central Bank governorship and the 'midnight' appointments of President Garcia which I recalled in Administrative Order No. 2, has contributed to the promotion of integrity and stability in the country."

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: January 21-27, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**January 21.**—MALACAÑANG revealed today that Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno has recommended to President Macapagal that all midnight appointees who took their oaths, for their new posts before President Garcia will be considered as having lost their former positions.

President Macapagal and Secretary Diokno conferred early this morning following the announcement of the decision of the Supreme Court upholding the validity of Administrative Order No. 2 issued by President Macapagal, recalling all midnight appointments of former President Garcia.

Secretary Diokno recommended to President Macapagal that such appointees whose record for honesty, efficiency, and merit are unimpeachable should be reappointed to their last posts before their midnight appointments.

Malacañang said that President Macapagal expects all officials holding the rank of Cabinet secretary and undersecretary, as well as all others holding policy determining positions who have not yet submitted their courtesy resignations, to do so immediately to give the Chief Executive an opportunity to carry out the mandate of the people.

President Macapagal launched today his program for full decontrol by approving the decision of the CB Monetary Board lifting foreign exchange controls and by signing an executive order revising the tariff duties on imported goods.

President Macapagal said that controls have hampered the economic growth of the country and have been a source of graft. He added that in order to put the country on the road to prosperity, currency reforms were necessary.

The return to the economic system of free private, enterprise was a commitment the President made during the presidential campaign.

The executive order revising tariff rates on some 754 items is intended, to cushion the immediate impact of decontrol on the average consumers and at the same time extend protection to local manufacturers.

The new tariff rates feature reductions in the duties of highly essential consumer item's and increases for non-essentials and luxury products.

In approving the Monetary Board action and in taking adequate safeguards, President Macapagal said that "we have today taken two great strides, one towards prosperity and the other towards freedom."

Early today President Macapagal met with Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, CB Governor Andres Castillo, NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Prof. Amado Castro, Benito Legarda, Jr., and Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova at a breakfast conference during which a last minute review of the decontrol moves was made.

Upon being informed by Secretary Sison and Gov. Castillo of the Monetary Board action this noon, President Macapagal met with Chairman Balmaceda, Commissioners Montano A. Tejam, Isidro Macaspac, and Marto P. Fajardo of the Tariff Commission. Also present were Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., and Press Secretary Hechanova. Later, Gov. Castillo, Secretary Sison, and Benito Legarda, Jr., joined the conferees for a late lunch.

The conference lasted for six solid hours during which the recommendations of the Tariff Commission which began its studies on tariff modification way back in 1959, were considered.

In making the modification, the President saw to it that the average individual would be protected from the impact of decontrol measures by reducing to the maximum of 50 per cent customs duties on over 50 articles considered highly essential for local consumption.

The President also increased duties on nearly 700 imported articles which are now being produced locally in order to protect and encourage the growth of local manufacturing industries.

The President and his advisers expressed optimism that with the supplementary measures being taken, the lifting of exchange control would put the country on the road to prosperity.

This afternoon the President administered the oaths of office to nine key government officials in separate ceremonies held at Malacañang.

Inducted were:

(1) William Chiongbian as representative of the lone district of Misamis Occidental. This is his third term in Congress.

(2) Salvador Esguerra as associate justice of the Court of Appeals. He was CFI judge detailed in Malacañang for the last 11 years, serving since the time of President Roxas, before he was elevated to the appellate Court (3) Esteban Piczon as undersecretary of agriculture and natural resources. He was formerly mayor of Catbalogan, Samar. He is also a prominent farmer.

(4) Jose P. Bengzon as chief of the Philippine reparations mission in Japan. He was Secretary of Justice during the term of President Quirino and City Fiscal of Manila after the Liberation. He also served for one term as representative of Pangasinan.

(5) Benedicto Padilla as board chairman of the Manila Railroad Company. An engineer and economist of note, Padilla served as congressman in the first district of Rizal.

(6) Vene L. Benito as commissioner of the social security system. He served as governor of Abra.

(7) Capt. Vicente Rivera, Jr., as civil aeronautics administrator. He was acting CAA administrator since last year when Col. Urbano Caldoza ran for Congress in Samar.

8) Dr. Jose Villarama as vice-governor of Bulacan, vice Manolo Cruz who ran for Congress.

(9) Javier Ariosa as vice-governor of Zamboanga del Sur, vice Vinzenso Sagun,

Justice Esguerra was one of the "midnight" appointees of former President Garcia. He was re-appointed by President Macapagal who considered his case meritorious.

A large crowd gathered at the Palace to witness the oath taking rites, prominent among them were Justice Sabino Padilla; Senators Francisco Rodrigo and Ambrocio Padilla; former Rep. Valeriano Yancha; Reps. Jose Abrigo and Eladio Balite of Samar; and former governor Gregorio Santayansa, now head of the local government affairs office in Malacañang.

At the same time, Executive Secretary Amelito Mutuc inducted into office Faustino Lazaro as mayor of the new municipality of Valenzuela, Bulacan, in a simple ceremony also held at his office in Malacañang.

**January 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal this afternoon proposed a bipartisan executive-legislative approach to the new administration's socio-economic program designed to provide every Filipino a decent living.

Speaking before a joint session of the precariously balanced Senate and an NP-controlled House of Representatives, which had only a few hours before re-elected Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, the President drew applause and tears as he pleaded the cause of the common man and pledged to carry out this sworn duty of serving the nation.

The President also drew praises and remarks from solons, both Liberals and Nacionalistas, for a well-grounded and thoroughly laid out socio-economic program which he was able to prepare and present to Congress in the brief space of 24 days after he had assumed the presidency.

In his 70-minute speech the President pinpointed two tasks and made 13 basic recommendations for legislation to Congress.

The President said the two prime goals of the Administration are the moral regeneration and the solution of the economic problems of the nation.

To achieve these goals, the Chief Executive appealed for legislative support in:

- (1) The establishment and financing of a Moral Commission to study and recommend ways and means to mobilize all elements and institutions of the country for a national moral regeneration;
- (2) Adoption of a comprehensive rice-and-corn program of self-sufficiency at prices within the reach of the masses;
- (3) Legislation to assist private enterprise in the creation of job opportunities, for which specific measures will be presented to Congress;
- (4) Appropriation of funds for construction of apartment houses for displaced squatters and low-income groups at nominal rentals;
- (5) Appropriation for improvement and expansion of essential public services, designed to raise the general living standards of people; such as, education, public health, and low-cost housing;
- (6) Further revision of tariff rates, to protect domestic industries and discourage luxurious living;
- (7) Passage of foreign investments law to delineate clearly economic fields open to foreign capital, attract new foreign investments into the country, define treatment of foreign capital, particularly on repatriation of capital and profits remittances;
- (8) Enactment of law imposing selective export tax on protected exports and raw materials locally processed, in order to prevent inflationary pressures and expand government revenues;
- (9) Repeal of the margin levy on foreign exchange;
- (10) Repeal of barter law to eliminate virtual multiple rates of exchange for barterable products and to simplify system and prevent loopholes which drain foreign exchange earnings;
- (11) Re-examination and revision of tax structure to make them more equitable, and to support the government's industrialization program.
- (12) Creation of an anti-smuggling office to eradicate smuggling which deprives national treasury of large sums in the form of customs dues and internal revenue receipts; and
- (13) Adoption of the five-year integrated socio-economic program. The President arrived at the Session Hall of the House of Representatives at 5 p.m., accompanied by members of his Cabinet.

Upon alighting in front of the Philippine Congress building, he was practically mobbed by a large crowd that had gathered to greet him, and was ushered into the Hall of Congress with a rolling applause that continued for over ten minutes when he mounted the rostrum and shook hands with acting Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez.

The President again drew a long applause when he extended his hand as a sporting gesture, to congratulate Speaker Romualdez on his re-election. The President, however, in a light vein, added as a rejoinder that he would "congratulate the Senate President at the proper time." The Senate had postponed election of a new President.

The President received no less than 15 applauses in his entire speech. For a brief moment, the long recitation of facts seemed almost to bore the NP solons, but they were soon jerked back to alertness as the President, in a low, slow, and choking voice made a last appeal, his eyes misty as he tried to fight back tears.

After concluding his speech, the President received a thunderous applause, followed by praises and remarks from the crowds. As he stood up to receive the congratulations of the Senate and House of Representatives presiding officers, the President, again was mobbed by the people, and he had a hard time getting outside of the Congress to board his car.

From Congress, the President returned to Malacañang.

The President occupied himself the whole day putting the finishing touches : on his state-of-the-nation message to Congress.

At 10:40 a.m. the Chief Executive received the Senate committee, which informed him that the Upper House had already convened. The Senate committee was "composed of Sens. Lorenzo Tañada, Oscar Ledesma, Jose J. Roy, Rogelio de la Rosa, and Maria Kalaw-Katigbak.

The Lower House committee, which informed the President that the House was already in session, saw the Chief Executive at 3:50 p.m. It was composed of Reps. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Rodolfo Ganzon of Iloilo, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur, and Vivencio Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur.

**January 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal this morning expressed confidence on the success of efforts being exerted by the Philippines and Japan to strengthen the friendly ties existing between their two countries.

The President emphasized that continued mutual good relationships between these two Asian countries take primacy among the fundamental goals of the present administration.

The Chief Executive made these remarks during a courtesy call at Malacañang by the 23-man Japanese Goodwill Mission.

The visiting Japanese group arrived in the Philippines last January 18 and will be in the country until tomorrow.

The mission is headed by Mamuro Nagano, member of the House of Counselors in Japan, the counterpart of the Philippine Senate, and Nagahedi Muri, deputy chief of the group. Nagano is also president of the Philippine-Japanese Society in Tokyo.

The group was accompanied to Malacañang by Rep. Josefina B. Duran of Albay and Ambassador Jun Tsuchiya of the Japanese Embassy in Manila.

The members of the goodwill mission are Takeo Matsuzaki, Setsutaro Kabayashi, Sampachi Hashimoto, Kasou Hayashi, Mrs. Nagahide Muri, Shoichi Yasuda, Ichiro Adachi, Chikao Nishiwaki, Yashihara Maeda, Kaiichiro Kiriya, Masayoshi Tasaba, Tatsou Daiko, Kazuo Hirahara, Mrs. S. Kubashi, Masao Maraka, Buzaemon Shindo, Mrs. Mary Shobara, Tamotsu Shobara, Ejero Naniikawa, and Jitaro Kihara.

Then the President received J. V. Pickering, vice-president of the Standard Vacuum Oil Company in New York, and Cris A. Larsen, general manager of the local Stanvac office, who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang.

Pickering, leaves for New York today after a brief business survey in this country and following consultations with Stanvac associates in Manila. Earlier this morning, the President had breakfast with John Mcleod, travel editor of the Washington Daily News, Karl Bachmeyer, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, and Modesto Farolan, commissioner on tourism.

President Diosdado Macapagal acted swiftly today to seek the support of the people for his decontrol and economic program by expounding on its goal to the workers in the Litton Knitting Mills and the barrio folk of Santolan, Pasig.

He was lustily cheered when he declared that decontrol was a vital step in eradicating corruption and in paving the way for a better livelihood for the people.

He appealed to the people, especially to vendors and consumers, to help in making the economic program succeed in the interest of everyone.

“If by acts of selfishness of any group, the effectiveness of the program is delayed, all will suffer, including the saboteurs. But if all will sacrifice a little and the success of the program is accelerated, all will benefit in the form of opportunities for a better living,” the President said.

He said that with decontrol, prices ought to stop from rising because the bribe money used to be charged to the consumers no longer exist.

Any slight increase in prices of imported commodities would be due to the increased tariff rates under the Laurel-Langley Agreement but not to decontrol, he explained.

If there would appear an increase in the price of other commodities, “it would be the manipulation of speculators,” he said.

He warned that the Administration will not brook the tactics of “selfish speculators who have no concern for the public interest and will bring to bear the might of the law to keep those speculators from causing mischief to our efforts to restore health to our economy.”

He urged the consumers to find ways of frustrating the speculators among them, “by refusing to buy unduly priced goods, for, if there will be no buyers for their goods, they will be forced to bring down their prices.

He urged the wholesalers and retailers to show their civic spirit by “reducing their profit in order to help bring down prices.”

He re-assured the workers that “after the transition period which calls for a little sacrifice, decontrol will bring health to the ailing economy, produce more jobs and more goods that will bring down prices, thereby ushering in prosperity and a better life.”

The President was accompanied by Mrs. Macapagal, Rep. Jovito Salonga, Mayor Caruncho of Pasig, and other LP leaders in Rizal.

The President and Mrs. Macapagal motored from Malacañang to the Litton Knitting Mills at past 10 a.m., together with Rep. Jovito Salonga of Rizal. Upon nearing the Litton compound, the President alighted from his car and conversed for a while with Francisca Hernandez and Iluminada Ducina, owners of a soft drink stand where he took refreshments during the last campaign.

Entering the Litton compound, the President was mobbed by the employees who enthusiastically greeted him and jostled with each other in order to shake his hand.

Rep. Justo Albert of Manila, George Litton, Sr., and his sons Edward, James, and John, and other executives of the textile mill were on hand to greet the President upon his arrival.

Acceding to the clamor of the employees that the President say a few words to them, the Chief Executive repaired to a nearby recreation hall where he delivered a much-applauded speech in Tagalog.

From the Litton textile mill, the President motored to barrio Santolan, Pasig, to fulfill a pre-election pledge that he would return as President to express his gratitude to the barrio folk for their support.

At the house of barrio lieutenant Gregorio Cruz, the President inducted the following members of the barrio council: Gregorio Cruz, barrio lieutenant; Pablo Bautista, Florencio Andres, Felix A. M. Cruz, Jr., Gregorio Victorino, Roman Mejia, Mrs. Agripina Doroteo, Amando Ramos, Mrs.; Eugenia Sityar, and Luis Samson, vice-barrio lieutenants; Macario de Leon, Isabelo Maturan, Mrs. Fidela Cruz, and Mrs. Librada Regino, barrio council members; and Bernardino Cruz, treasurer.

Present at the induction ceremony were Rep. Salonga, Pasig Mayor Emiliano Caruncho, and Councilor Rodolfo Bernal, as well as other LP leaders of Rizal and ranking members of the "Cadena de Amor Club" of Santolan.

After the induction, the President and Mrs. Macapagal had lunch at the residence of Capt. and Mrs. Primitive Espiritu in the same barrio and then returned to Malacañang about 2 p.m., after passing- by the residence of Rep. Salonga in Quezon City.

**January 24.**—THIS morning, the President had breakfast with Public Works Secretary Paulino T. Cases, Undersecretary of Public Works Rafael Contreras, and Reparations Commissioner Calixto O. Zaldivar over the four-year public works program.

President Macapagal also received Mayor Odin Sinsuat of Dinaig, Cotabato; Gov. Melanio Singson of Isabela; Rep. Ramon Tabiana and ex-Rep. T. Lutero of Iloilo; Gov. Antonio Mayuga of Romblon; Rep. Rufino Antonio of Rizal; Assistant City Attorney Jose V. Villacorta of Pasay City; Rep. Luciano Jason, Gov. Rodrigo Ignacio, and provincial officials of Mindoro Oriental; and Mayor Cesar Nepomuceno of Boac, Marinduque, accompanied by Justice ex-Secretary Ricardo Nepomuceno.

This afternoon President Macapagal directed members of his Cabinet to revise their budgetary proposals for the next fiscal year in the light of the decontrol on foreign exchange and his five-year socio-economic program.

The President and his Cabinet held a special session from 2:30 p.m. to 4:40 p.m., exclusively on the new Administration's first budget.

The President reminded his Cabinet members that in view of his lifting of foreign exchange controls, estimates of expenditures and government income would have to be revised.

Some department secretaries had already prepared their budgets while others were still preparing theirs.

The President told the Cabinet members that they should not follow the old practice of inflating the income figures to justify estimated expenditures with semblance of a balanced budget.

The President said the government under his administration would operate on the true income of the government. He said there should be no deficit spending.



When the Liberals took over Malacañang early this month, there was a deficit of about P80 million in the current budget, according to a Malacañang spokesman.

This afternoon President Macapagal expressed gratification that the prices of foodstuffs have not generally increased following institution of decontrol measures. He made this statement after visiting Divisoria market, accompanying Mrs. Macapagal who made her midweek purchases.

The visit at the largest city market was one of a series of moves taken by the President to rally support for his decontrol program.

Yesterday he sought the support of the laborers at the Litton Knitting Mills and the residents of barrio Santolan, Maypajo, as well as the counsel of the leaders of the Chinese community. Today the President is scheduled to meet the leaders of local and foreign communities to ask also their support.

The President attributed the steadying of prices to the growing sense of discipline of the people, removal of graft money as a factor in the computation of prices, and the cooperation of Chinese leaders who pledged to Malacañang full support for the Administration's decontrol program.

The President reiterated his advice to the vendors and the market customers who flocked around the presidential couple, to be ready to undergo difficulties as a preparation for better times and a better life.

"By not making more profits now, you will have higher profits and a better livelihood later when our socio-economic program gets into full swing," he told the vendors.

The large crowds which gathered, upon learning of the presence of the President, cheered him loudly as he shook hands with all those around him.

Leaving Malacañang at past 5 p.m., after the Cabinet meeting, the President and his party proceeded to Divisoria via Tanduay, Bonifacio Drive, Del Pan, Recto Avenue (Azcarraga), and Sto. Cristo.

As soon as they reached the entrance to Recto Avenue, the motorcade came to virtual stop as people going home from school or from work ran towards, the presidential car, trying hard to get close enough to shake hands with the First Couple.

As the presidential car proceeded to Divisoria market, the crowd following it became denser and, by the time the President alighted, he was surrounded by a sea of humanity.

So dense was the crowd that followed the President that, at one time he hardly could be seen.

From Divisoria, President and Mrs. Macapagal motored back to Malacañang, arriving there about 6 p.m.

The President directed today the Social Welfare Administration to extend immediate aid to flood victims of Davao province following receipt of several urgent telegrams reporting on the "inadequacy" of the government assistance already sent to that province.

The Chief Executive also sent a wire to the Philippine National Red Cross asking that agency to extend the necessary help to the flood victims.

The President issued the directive following a conference with Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc, who briefed him on the extent of the damage rendered by the recent "flash floods" that caused the overflowing of the Bancungan River and the inundation of a major part of Davao City.

Social Welfare Administrator Tecla San Andres-Ziga reported to Malacañang that the initial amount of P4,500 from the SWA deposit with the Davao provincial treasurer had been released and another P5,000 is being released today.

**January 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal enlisted today the help of the business community in maintaining the steady level of prices of prime commodities to insure the success of his decontrol program for the well-being of the people.

He called a *merienda* conference with the different chambers of commerce at Malacañang this afternoon to voice his appeal to the business leaders to “lead in showing willingness to make the necessary temporary adjustments by not taking advantage of the situation to earn more profits.”

The businessmen and industrialists pledged support and cooperation with the President to push through successfully the Administration’s decontrol plan.

Present at the *merienda* conference were: Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison; NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda; CB Gov. Andres Castillo; Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova; Alfonso Calalang and Gil A. Carlos, president and vice-president respectively of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce; Vice-President Narandas Toleram of the Indian Chamber of Commerce; President R. A. Meyjes and Vice-President John E. Pipe of the Manila Chamber of Commerce; President Harold Carl and Vice-President Dennet Howe of the American Chamber of Commerce; President Mariano Del Rosario and Vice-President Hilarion Henares, Jr., of the Philippine Chamber of Industries; and President Ramon Barata and Vice-President Francisco Marte of the Camara Español de Comercio.

The President administered the oath of office to Col. Julian C. Chavez (Ret.) as general manager of the Manila Port Service at a ceremony held this afternoon at the Malacañang reception hall.

Relatives and close friends of the MPS head were present at the induction ceremony.

The new MPS head is a well-known resistance movement leader. At the outbreak of war he was a battalion commander of the 61st Division, USAFFE. During the resistance movement in Panay he became the chief of staff of the 6th Military District. After liberation he became the commanding officer of the 52nd Infantry Regiment (activated unit), Philippine Army and commander of the 6th. Military District, P.A. Later he was assigned as special technical adviser of Presidents Roxas and Quirino.

Col. Chavez is also a well-known educator and farmer. He is a board member of the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters’ Association.

The President spent the morning working on the proposed budget which he will submit to Congress for the coming fiscal year.

He also worked on some pending state papers brought over to him by Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc.

**January 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received Mrs. Golda Meir, foreign minister of Israel, who called at Malacañang this morning to pay her respects following her recent arrival here on a five-day state visit-to this country.

During the call Mrs. Meir thanked the President for the warm reception accorded her by the Filipino people and their leaders.

The President replied that Filipinos are by nature hospitable and they have natural affection for other freedom-loving peoples of the world.

The call lasted about 15 minutes during which the President and his guest exchanged views on the latest world developments. They also discussed current problems besetting their two countries. The President recalled his stay in

Israel when, as Vice-President, he made an observation trip abroad. He said he had enjoyed his brief stay in that country.

Accompanied by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, the only woman foreign minister, arrived at Malacañang about 10:45 a.m. Also with her were Minister Yehiel Iksar of the Israeli legation in Manila, Director Jaacov Shimeni of the Asian division of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Minister Pedro Aragon Angara, protocol officer of the foreign office.

Earlier this morning the President had breakfast with Gov. Benjamin Abubakar of Sulu, who consulted him on pressing problems of his province. Following the breakfast, the President repaired to his study where he received other callers.

His visitors included Administrator Teela San Andres Ziga, former Justice Secretary Jose P. Bengzon, who was recently appointed chief of the reparations mission in Tokyo, Justice Undersecretary Juan R. Liwag, Manila Railroad Company Board Chairman Benedicto Padilla, Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental with Board Member Narciso Jocson, former Mayor Benito Montinola, Reps. Pablo Sanidad of Ilocos Sur, Ombra Amilbansa of Sulu; and Felipe S. Abeleda of Mindoro Occidental, Simeon M. Valdez of Ilocos Norte, Josefina Duran of Albay, Jose M. Alberto of Catanduanes, Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur, and P. Villasin of Leyte.

About noontime, on being informed that a lot more people were still outside the study room awaiting their turn to see him, the President went out to the reception hall and received them all at the same time.

While there he posed for a souvenir picture with a delegation, of students from the La Salle College headed by Brother Bonaventure Richard.

Shortly before 1 p.m. the President went down to the social hall, where he received a large delegation of the former Macapagal-Pelaez Movement from Cabanatuan City, headed by Ester Ferrer. A group of squatters in Quezon City who sought assistance in connection with an order issued by the city government to demolish their homes also saw the President.

In the afternoon the President received representatives of the tobacco industry. He conferred with representatives of different sectors of the tobacco industry. He heard their conflicting views but assured them his administration has decided to evolve a policy regarding the disposition and marketing of tobacco.

Present at the conference were retired Gen. Juan C. Relosa, manager of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration; former Justice Pompeyo Diaz, PVTA chairman; Peregrino Quinto and Victorino Antonio, general manager and assistant manager, respectively, of the Philippine Tobacco Association; Crispulo Quimbin and Felipe Pipo, president and manager, respectively, of the Ilocandia Tobacco Growers; Johnny Cheng, Ching Tan, Ralph Nubia, Yao Shiong Shio of the Philippine Cigar & Cigarettes Manufacturing Association; Rafael Maclang of the Virginia Tobacco Advisory Council; Higinio, Fariñas of the Virginia Tobacco Association of the Philippines, Inc.; Gerommo Gaerlan of the Chamber of Tobacco Planters Association, Inc.; Robert Brooks of the U.S. Tobacco Corporation; Alfonso Dampierre of the Tabacalera; and Ferdinand Roller of Alhambra.

The President also inducted former Rep. Jose Suntay as chairman of the board of directors of the National Rice and Corn Corporation, ex-Rep. Ignacio Santos Diaz as head of the special board of inquiry to investigate NARIC officials, and Benito Manalansang as member of the Presidential Committee on Rice and Corn.

**January 27.**—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Macapagal today gave a luncheon in honor of Madame Golda Meir, Israel's foreign minister, who arrived in Manila recently on a five-day state visit to this country upon the invitation of the Philippine government.

Present at the affair which was held in Malacañang this noon were Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez, Agriculture Secretary and Mrs. Benjamin Gozon, Ambassador and Mrs.

Roberto Regalo, Minister and Mrs. Yehiel Ilisar of the Israeli legation in Manila, and Director Jaacov Shimoni of the Asian Division of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Also present were Arthur Macapagal, son of the President, and Menaham. Meir, son and traveling companion of the visiting foreign minister.

The President spent the whole morning studying the 1962-63 budget proposal for the next fiscal year.

This afternoon the President appealed to Filipino textile producers to make available at prices within the reach of the masses a type of clothing that is durable and economical.

The President, in conference with the textile manufacturers, emphasized that the welfare of the common masses requires the cooperation of all segments of the Philippine economy and that the adequate production of a kind of clothing priced within the reach of the common masses is important.

The President conferred with the clothing, manufacturers from 4 to 6:10 p.m. and threshed out their various problems, assuring them that he and his top advisers, will give them serious study with the single motive of serving the common good.

Among the problems brought up with the President was the need for higher protective tariff on cotton goods which offer cut-throat competition with local manufactures.

It was revealed during the conference that the local textile industry has an overall investment of P350 million and supports some 40,000 Filipino laborers and their dependents.

In closing the conference, President Macapagal assured the textile manufacturers that the Administration will do everything in its power to help the different sectors of the country, and that everything will be done on the level and solely in the spirit of public service.

The President said, "We will do things as they should be done without any consideration than what is good for our people."

Present at the conference were NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Finance Acting Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo. Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, and Isidro Macaspac of the NEC, on the government side; and the following officers and members of the Textile Mills Association of the Philippines:

Delfin Buencamino, president; Felix Lirag and Hermenegildo Atienza, Jr., vice-presidents; Antonio Assad, treasurer; P. L. Lim, Jesus S. Yujuico, George Litton, C. B. Lim, Benjamin Teodoro, Pablo Floro, directors; Jose D. Aspiras, executive secretary; Reynaldo Lobrin, Benigno Zialcita, Jr., Horacio Borromeo, E. Tanjuatco, Arthur Tan, Francisco Gregorio, of the National Development Company; Choa Yiong, Cesar Concio, Jr., Willy Co, Raymundo Lorenzana, Jimmy Litton; and Benedicto V. Dakanay, consultant.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

**President's Month in Review: January 28 - February 10, 1962**

## President's Week in Review: February 11-17, 1962

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**February 11.**—THE Chief Executive left Davao City shortly before noon aboard the presidential *Fokker* plane after conducting an extensive survey of the flood-ravaged areas which took him to as far Tagum town, 58 kilometers from the city.

President Macapagal sloshed through mud to be able to get first-hand information on the extent of the damage wrought by the flood and thus ensure effective government action.

Before he departed from the city, the President announced he would recommend to Congress the appropriation of P3.5 million to finance the flood control project of the Department of Public Works and Communications.

The DPWC plan calls for the construction of cut-off canals and diversion channels to prevent the overflowing of the Davao River, which cuts through the provinces of Davao, Agusan, and Surigao del Sur.

The swelling of the Davao River caused the floods which inflicted a total estimated damage of P11 million, according to congressional survey committee.

Before returning to Manila, the President and the First Lady dropped in at the Bangkerohan market in Davao and inquired into the conditions of flood victims and the prices of prime commodities.

They were met upon arrival in Manila by their children.

This afternoon President Macapagal led Catholic Philippines in observing the closing day of the observance of the Archdiocesan Eucharistic Congress in Manila.

The President attended the last mass at the Luneta which was officiated by Rufino J. Cardinal Santos.

The President motored to the Luneta shortly after his arrival from Davao.

Mrs. Macapagal was unable to join members of her family at the Luneta rites, as she was indisposed following her return with the President this noon from a hectic flying visit to the flooded areas in Davao.

**February 12.**—THIS morning President Macapagal called on the press of Asia to continue working for greater freedom if the Asian peoples would attain a system of liberty and prosperity.

At the same time, he reiterated his policy to support “fully the full freedom of the press” and that his administration would not curtail that freedom even if it verged on license.

The Chief Executive was principal speaker at the opening ceremonies of the first Asian press conference under the auspices of the National Press Club at the N.P.C. deck.

In his address the President also pointed out the responsibility of the newspapermen and the newspaper publishers to their country.

The Chief Executive was welcomed upon arrival at the NPC building—site of the conference—by NPC officials led by Liberate) Marinas. NPC president. He was accompanied by Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and Lt. Col. Gaudencio Gaddi, senior aide.

The President returned to the Palace shortly before noon and resumed work on state papers.

In the afternoon he dictated a directive to Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc ordering the sale of seven staff cars in Malacañang.

He also sent a directive to Commissioner of Customs Cesar Climaco urging the investigation of alleged extortion activities of certain officials of the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation.

The Chief Executive issued the directive to Secretary Mutuc following receipt of the list of cars “not in use” in Malacañang. The list was submitted to him in compliance with his verbal instruction to dispose of Malacañang vehicles not needed by the Office of the President to effect economy in the Malacañang garage.

The cars to be sold at public auction consist of two Packard limousines, one Cadillac, one Chrysler Crown Imperial, a Buick, a Mercury, and a Plymouth special de luxe.

Two Cadillacs were retained by the President only upon being informed that Malacañang needed them for ceremonial services like presentation of credentials by foreign diplomats and for the use of state guests.

Most of the vehicles slated for sale are big luxurious cars previously used by past Presidents. President Macapagal uses a 1957 Ford Sedan for his official car.

President Macapagal circularized today all department secretaries, chiefs of bureaus, and managers of government-owned and controlled corporations to prohibit the handcarrying of official communications by unauthorized parties.

Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc signed the circular by authority of the President late this afternoon.

In his circular the President observed that official records and correspondence are being hand-carried by unauthorized persons, from one department of the national government to another.

The President pointed out that this practice should not be tolerated as it smacks of infidelity in the custody of official documents and leads to the exercise of improper influence on the part of the persons or parties hand-carrying the documents. The practice is also responsible in many cases for the loss of official papers, the President said.

The President referred today the housing problems of Quezon City squatters in Tatalon Estate, Awad Compound, and East and North Triangle to the Peoples Homesite and Housing Corporation for proper solution.

Delegation leaders from the three squatters areas in Quezon City, accompanied by Rep. Rufino D. Antonio, went to Malacañang this afternoon to voice their problems to the President.

President Macapagal said he would refer to Gov. Esmeraldo Eco, PHHC chairman, for proper action their petitions for the solutions of their problems.

**February 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal assured the Philippine sugar industry today of all-out government support in its bid to hold back the threat of the United States government to institute a global sugar quota system in her importation of sugar from the Philippines and other sugar-producing countries of the world.

He gave the assurance in a well-applauded speech at the opening of the ninth national congress of the Philippine sugar industry at the New Selecta.

At the same time, the President also:

1. Pledged to support the effective expansion and improvement of the Philippine sugar industry as one of the strongest pillars of the national economy.

2. Asked the sugar men to share with their workers the profit windfall accrued to the industry since decontrol was launched.
3. Underscored the duty of the sugar industry to keep the price of domestic sugar at a reasonable level.
4. Counseled the sugar industry to shift its emphasis from purely agricultural to integration and diversification in the utilization and industrialization of its by-products.
5. Enjoined the sugar men to refrain from engaging in organized power politics as a means of promoting the welfare of the sugar industry.
6. Assured that the Administration shall not be a party to any arrangement that will sacrifice one industry for another but will approach the problem of the sugar, tobacco, and other industries as the interest of each industry and the sound development of the national economy requires on the basis of fairness, justice, reason, and the people's welfare.

In pledging the unequivocal support of the administration to combat the global sugar quota policy as proposed by the U. S. government, the President said: "I give assurance that this administration will do everything to oppose and prevent the implementation of this system for the protection and well-being of the Philippine sugar industry.

The institution of a global sugar quota system by the U.S. government in her imports of the commodity will "bring about the abandonment of premium prices paid for our country's U.S. sugar exports and the substantial reduction of our foreign exchange earnings from this source by nearly two-thirds or between \$70 and \$80 million yearly," the President said.

"The adverse effects of the implementation of this system will tell greatly on the social and economic structure not only of the three million dependents of the sugar industry but also of the entire Filipino people," the President said.

After his speech, the President received two donations from the sugar producers amounting to P5,000 each for the victims of the floods in Davao and Agusan. He was also informed of a P20,000 scholarship fund set up by the producers through the Philippine Sugar Institute for the advanced training of agricultural and technological graduates under the supervision of the University of the Philippines.

The President ordered today the re-examination of all land grants involving forest lands which had been converted into agricultural lands shortly after the elections.

The President directed Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc to look into reports of indiscriminate releases of forest reserves under the administration of the Parks and Wildlife Commission by the previous administration which might cause undue denuding of wooded areas reserved for national parks.

Secretary Mutuc was instructed to confer with the commissioner of parks and wildlife and other authorities concerned to verify reports that areas reserved for parks, watersheds, and forest had been indiscriminately awarded to private parties. These awards was said to have taken place before the elections.

Malacañang today ordered the suspension of Governor Bienvenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur pending final determination of the administrative charges filed against him.

President Macapagal also designated Assistant Solicitor General Florencio Villamor as special investigator of the charges preferred against the provincial executive with the Office of the President.

The charges were alleged (1) oppression and grave abuse of authority, (2) dishonesty, and (3) violation of the anti-graft law. They were filed by Cesar Ballesteros waterworks supervising engineer of Pagadian: Lauro Roldan, a



telegraph operator, also of Pagadian; Felipe Largo of Malavek; Genaro Salomon of Molave; and Eleuterio Rafael, all of Zamboanga del Sur province.

The complaints were filed with Malacañang about a month ago after which the respondent governor was given an opportunity to answer them.

President Macapagal commuted to life imprisonment the death penalty-imposed on Roger Parete y Manlapas on the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, it was announced by Malacañang today.

The Board, in recommending the extension of executive clemency to the condemned prisoner, informed the President that Parete, during his stint at the national penitentiary, had shown “acts of reformation” and that his prison record was excellent.

Parete was scheduled to be executed on Friday. He had been convicted by the Rizal court of first instance, together with on Victorio Sajorda for the crime of murder committed inside the prison compound in Muntinglupa on March 25, 1959.

This evening Malacañang announced the appointment of Virgilio Gaston as acting associate commissioner of immigration, vice Francisco de la Rosa.

There are actually three positions in the Immigration Commission: namely, the commissioner and two associate commissioners. With the appointment of Gaston, there is still one more vacancy in the Commission.

**February 14.**—THIS morning President Macapagal was informed by members of the International Monetary Fund mission now in Manila for annual consultations that they were impressed with the economy of the country and its possibilities.

The IMF mission members, headed by U Tun Thin, assistant director of the IMF Asian department, were guests of the President and the First Lady at breakfast in Malacañang this morning.

The mission members are Miss Mary Gumbart and P. R. Narvekar, chief and assistant chief, respectively, of the Far East Division of the IMF Asian department; and Y. C. Wang, an economist in the exchange restrictions department, also of the IMF.

They told the President of the impressions they gathered from their consultations with Central Bank and finance department officials since their arrival here late last month. They are scheduled to leave the Philippines tomorrow after a three-week stay in this country.

Also present at the conference were Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda of the National Economic Council and Governor Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank.

The President also received officials and members of the Philippine Producers Cooperative Marketing Association of Negros Occidental who went to Malacañang to thank the Chief Executive for his unequivocal support of the sugar industry.

The sugar group, which is purely a cooperative marketing effort engaged in the production and sale of all agricultural products, was headed by PPCMA President Raul Torres.

During the call the President said that his administration was committed to the task of achieving prosperity for the people through a concerted action in support of not only sugar but all other industries in the country.

The President also conferred with Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim who called at Malacañang to solicit presidential assistance in the proposed Philippine participation in the forthcoming Century 21 World Exposition to be held in Seattle, Washington, this April.

The proposed Philippine pavilion will entail a P1 million expense half of which was appropriated by Congress: the other half will come from private sectors of the community.

Secretary Lim was accompanied by Luis Araneta, over-all chairman of the Philippine participation in the Seattle Fair; Medina de Leon, undersecretary of commerce; Antonio de las Alas, finance committee chairman; Teodoro Adeva, exposition director; and Mrs. Marjorie Ravenholt, Far East representative of the Century 21 World Fair.

Other morning callers were Jose Y. Feliciano, general manager of the National Rice and Corn Corporation, who took up some problems regarding the rice procurement program of the Administration; Emeterio Asinas, president of the Samar Institute of Technology; former Rep. Valeriano Yancha of Samar; Domingo Arcega, president of the Quezon City Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and a delegation from Ilagan, Isabela, headed by Mayor Venancio P. Gangan and Vice-Mayor Pedro Mamuri.

Rep. Jose Alberto and Mayor Rafael Villalona of Catanduanes also saw the President to seek aid for the flooded victims in their province. The President ordered the Namarco and the Department of Public Works to release the necessary goods and funds.

This afternoon the President appealed to cooperate with the Administration in pushing through the socio-economic program aimed at attaining a better life and prosperity for the people. The President sounded this appeal in a two-hour conference held this afternoon in Malacañang during which he also discussed the various problems confronting the country's wage-earners.

The President received a long applause when, in reply to a query as to whether labor would have a voice in the implementation of the socio-economic program, he emphatically said;

"It will. As a matter of fact, it will have the highest representation with me for I am a laborer like you."

The President assured them that his administration would see to it that labor, being an important segment of the national economy, would get its just and reasonable share in the benefits that prosperity will bring.

It will also be recalled that one of the first steps taken by the President upon his assumption of office was his order to Budget Commissioner Faustino SyChangco to raise the salaries of government workers by at least P10.00 a month.

Present at the conference were Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevos, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Labor Undersecretary Bernardino Abes, NEC Member Carlos E. Santiago, and labor leaders.

The President issued Proclamation No. 8, declaring the period from February 26 to March 4 of every year as National Press Week, it was announced by Malacañang today.

The President issued the proclamation "in order that the people may appreciate fully the vital role of the press in our community and national life."

The new proclamation revoked Proclamation No. 365, dated February 3, 1953, issued by the late President Quirino, declaring the period from February 15 to 21 of each year as National Press Week.

This evening President Macapagal appealed for national civic consciousness as he launched the 1962 fund raising campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross at Malacañang.

During the launching ceremonies held at Malacañang this evening, the President opened the fund drive by handing his personal contribution of P1,000 to Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal, honorary national chairman of this year's campaign.

The target amount for the 1962 fund-raising campaign is P1.7 million.

Among those present at the ceremonies were Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, honorary chairman of the 1962 Red Cross Drive; Mrs. Edith F. Pelaez, chairman, Manila Fund Drive; Hon. Geronima T. Pecson, chairman, Phil. National Red Cross; Hon. Fernando E. V. Sison, National co-chairman, 1962 Red Cross Fund Drive, and vice-chairman, Phil. National Red Cross; and Rep. Ramon D. Bagatsing, Secretary Manuel Lim, Gabriel A. Daza, Dr. Eufronio M. Alip, Mrs. Gabriela Walstrom. Hon. Valeriano Fugosu, Provincial Treasurer Jorge Labayo, School Superintendents Tomas de Castro and Alfredo J. Andal, Hon. Pablo Lorenzo, Pio Pedrosa, Don Ramon Barata, Stanley Fisher, Edward Ingram, Dee K. Chiong and Yao Shiong Shio.

President Macapagal extended a helping hand today to a boy who is suffering from a rare blood ailment similar to the dreaded leukemia.

The boy's name is Virgilio Macapagal, but he is not related to the President.

The President promptly sent a directive to authorities at the San Lazaro Hospital, ordering them to extend all possible medical assistance to save the life of the sick boy.

The Chief Executive heard about young Virgilio's plight from Appointments Secretary Vicente Dimson. The boy's mother, Mrs. Gloria Macapagal, had come to ask the President's help through Dimson.

**February 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal ordered today Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno to prosecute four naturalized Filipino millionaires who have been accused of attempting to bribe three Ilocos solons during raids conducted by agents of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

The President issued the directive during a conference with Reps. Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur and Manuel T. Cases of La Union, who had accompanied the BIR agents in the raids. Also present at the conference which was called by the President at Malacañang this morning was Secretary Diokno.

The justice secretary said he would confer with the two congressmen as well as with Rep. Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, who was also with them during the raids, in order to gather concrete proofs against the four naturalized Filipinos.

Rep. Crisologo had denounced the four businessmen on the floor of Congress the other night. He disclosed they had tried to bribe him and two fellow congressmen when they discovered, during their raids on bodegas owned by embroidery firms, that some importations of embroidery materials had actually been finished textile products.

The Chief Executive directed Secretary Diokno to take immediate action on the matter. He asked the justice secretary to look into violations of the embroidery laws and other laws.

Earlier this morning the President at breakfast discussed with an investment consultant, Charles W. Armstrong, the possibilities of establishing major outlets for Philippine cottage industry products through a chain of high-quality department stores in the United States.

Armstrong, an operations representative of the Associated Merchandising Corporation of New York, is in Manila on a survey of Philippine export products. He informed the President that with the establishment of an AMC (Philippines), the country stands to benefit, not only in terms of job opportunities but also in additional revenues.

The President also received Ian Peter M. Cargill, World Bank director for the Far East who called to pay his respects. Cargill was accompanied by Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison and Governor Andres Castillo of the Central Bank.

Administrator Cesar Climaco of the Office of Economic Coordination called at Malacañang to urge speedy action on the part of the Development Bank of the Philippines on a pending loan application to pay the last installation for DC-8 jet planes purchased by the Philippine Air Lines.

Other callers this noon included Sens. Ambrosio Padilla and Mariano J. Cuenco, Ambassador Roberto Regala, and former Gov. Esmeraldo Eco, chairman and general manager of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation.

**February 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received this morning officers of the American Chamber of Commerce who called at Malacañang to express their support for the socio-economic program of the administration.

Headed by H. D. Carl, president, the group also endorsed the foreign investments bill which the President had recommended for enactment by Congress to attract foreign capital into the country.

The resident thanked the ACCP officials for their offer of support and their endorsement of his proposed measure. Other members of the group were Dennet Howe, vice-president; Newland Baldwin, treasurer; Stanley Fisher, executive vice-president and executive secretary; and Gene Menefee, Calvin Crawford, W.W. Donnelly, Washington Sycip, and Allison Gibbs, directors.

The Chief Executive also conferred with Acting Public Works Secretary Paulino T. Cases and Undersecretary Rafael Contreras on the projected sale of the Government Telephone System to private enterprise. The move is in line with his policy that the government go out of business under a system of free private enterprise.

Secretary Cases submitted to the President a plan on the projected transfer of the GTS to private ownership, together with his recommendations. The President said he would study proposals.

Earlier at breakfast, the President conferred with Sens. Ferdinand Marcos, Estanislao Fernandez, and Rep. Cornelio Villareal of Capiz on general policies of the new administration.

Later, the President received other morning callers at the social hall among whom were: a delegation of public school teachers from Oriental Mindoro accompanied by Rep. Luciano Joson and Baco Mayor Gaudencio Zulueta; a delegation from Olongapo headed by former Deputy Gov. James Gordon; Antonio Diaz and Cesar Lopez; the Filipinesca Dance Group led by Benjamin Goquengco and Mrs. Leonora Orosa Goquengco; a delegation from Lanao del Sur led by Datu Dahding Sampal; members of the League of Legal Officer of the Liberal Party accompanied by Senator Ambrosio Padilla and a student delegation composed of council presidents of the Young Leaders Association of the Philippines headed by Hubert Yapdiangco.

After receiving the delegations, the President repaired to his study to receive more callers for the day.

Among the late callers were Alfred Mackenzie, resident representative of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board and director of Special Fund Programmes in the Philippines; Philippine National Bank Board Chairman Silvestre Panganiban; Reps William Chiongbian of Misamis Occidental and Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo; and Manila Vice-Mayor Antonio Villegas.

**February 17.**—THIS morning the President met at breakfast United States Ambassador William E. Stevenson, with whom he reviewed outstanding problems affecting PI-US relations.

The Chief Executive conferred with Stevenson behind closed doors for almost two hours, during which they exchanged views and updated their respective governments' position on a number of problems of common concern.

Malacañang kept the details of the discussions under wraps, but it was gathered tiny touched on such issues as the unresolved question of jurisdiction of the bases revision negotiations, the Philippine war damage and veterans pay claim, money claims, and pending Philippine loan applications in the U.S.

Also present at the breakfast were Mrs. Stevenson and the First Lady. Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal.

In the afternoon the President worked on pending state papers. He was assisted by Assistant Executive Estanislao Bernal.

President Macapagal exhorted government prosecutors today to give substance to his administration's credo of "justice to every man" in going about their business of dispensing justice

The President made the exhortation in brief remarks before the officers and members of the Government Prosecutors League who called on him in Malacañang this afternoon.

The prosecutor were accompanied to Malacañang by Justice Undersecretary Juan R. Liwag and Manila City Fiscal Hermogenes Concepcion. Jr., newly elected president of the league.

In the evening he walked across the Palace lawn to the press office building where he played a round of billiards with his aide. Lt. Col. Gaudencio Gaddi and newsmen. He cut short the game and rushed to Camp Murphy upon being informed that the AFP general headquarters was on fire.

President Macapagal ordered today the suspension of Chairman Paulino I. Garcia of the National Science Development Board pending investigation of the administrative charge for electioneering filed against him by two municipal officials and two private citizens of Gapan, Nueva Ecija.

"Finding your explanation to the charge unsatisfactory and considering its gravity and that the charge goes against the non-political character of the position involved, your continued discharge of the same pending investigation of the charge would be inimical to the interest of the service," Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc said in a letter dispatched to Dr. Garcia by authority of the President.

The special presidential committee which will be constituted to investigate Dr. Garcia will be composed of former Justice Pastor Endencia of the Supreme Court, as chairman, former Secretary of Interior and Appellate Justice Teofilo Sison, and former Supreme Court Justice Ramon San Jose, as members.

Complainants against Garcia were Mayor Dioscoro M. de Leon, Councilor Celestino Basa, Eusebio Mendoza and Modesto Obispo, all of Gapan, Nueva Ecija, who had submitted with Malacañang sworn statements to substantiate their charge.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: February 18-24, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**February 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal made an inspection today of the bodegas in Nueva Ecija and Bulacan in which the palay purchased by the Presidential Rice and Corn Committee headed by former Rep. Jose Feliciano is stored.

The President was accompanied by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal and Rep. Eugenio Baltao of Nueva Ecija.

Feliciano assured the President that enough palay and rice will be stockpiled to avoid scarcity during the non-harvest period.

"This will assure rice to the masses at reasonable prices," Feliciano said.

Commending Feliciano for his vigorous implementation of the rice stockpiling project, the President emphasized he would brook no failure of the program, because it was imperative to assure the people of their staple food.

Acting on Feliciano's request, the President immediately directed National Defense Secretary Macario Peralla, Jr., to utilize available Army trucks to assist Feliciano in transporting the palay purchased directly from tenants and small farmers in various towns of Central Luzon.

Unless this facility is provided, Feliciano said, the tenants and small farmers will be denied the opportunity to sell their share of the harvest at the government support price, as they will be unable to transport their palay to the NARIC buying centers. Feliciano said his committee would also buy palay in the Visayas and Mindanao to assure a sufficient stockpile.

The President left Malacañang at about 1 p.m. He arrived in Cabanatuan City at around 3 p.m. On his way back to Manila, he also dropped in at the NARIC warehouse in Pulilan, Bulacan.

The President and the First Lady were back in Malacañang about 6 p.m.

President Macapagal declared this evening the Administration will not budge in its opposition to, and drive against, bribery and other forms of graft despite the reported threat of Chinese capital to pull out of the country.

The President made the statement by way of comment on a press report from Taipeh that Chinese capital may go to Hongkong, Japan, or Formosa owing to inability under the Macapagal administration of Chinese businessmen to bribe their way out of the enforcement of existing nationalization laws as they used to do in the past.

"We want to hold business enterprises in the Philippines that do not thrive on bribery and graft. The economy gets stronger that way and benefits the people more," he added.

The President urged Chinese and other foreign capitalists to keep their capital in the Philippines. He said that foreign capital and foreign entrepreneurs will benefit from the fair and just treatment they will receive under the present administration.

The President said that anyone who cannot make his business successful unless he relies on unduly influencing public officials for privileges should not be in business.

In an unprecedented move, President Macapagal authorized the release today of the names of his relatives in connection with Administrative Order No. 1, prohibiting government officials and employees from entering into any kind of official transaction with the President's relatives.

In making public the list, Malacañang emphasized that contrary to practices of the previous administration, the President did not wish any of his kin to intervene in any official transaction, nor did he want the general public to deal with them in connection "with any government office or matter."

President Macapagal warned that any person other than those included in the list who claims to be his relative and who intervenes in any official transaction for a consideration, on the ground of his alleged relationship with the President, is an impostor and would be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

**February 19.**—AT BREAKFAST this morning President Macapagal decried the failure of Congress to show evidence of good faith in its offer of cooperation with the Executive branch of the government in the implementation of the Administration's socio-economic program.

The President expressed deep concern over the move in Congress to place both Houses of the lawmaking body in the control of the so-called sugar bloc or vested interests.

In brief remarks before members of the Congressional Reporters Club at a breakfast he gave in their honor at Malacañang this morning, the President declared:

"I judge others by what they do, and not by what they say. I am not ready to accept the present offer of cooperation by the present congressional leaders as evidence of their good intention while they are moving to place both Houses of Congress in the control of the so-called sugar bloc led by Sen. Fernando Lopez in the Senate, and Rep. Jose M. Aldeguer, Francisco Ortega, and Ramon P. Mitra in the House.

"It would harm the nation's interests and the people's welfare to place both Houses of Congress in the control of vested interests."

Present at the breakfast were Benjamin Peñaranda (*Manila Chronicle*), president, Congressional Reporters Club; Jose L. Guevara (*Manila Times*), Angel Quiambao (*Daily Mirror*), Birely Bautista (*Evening News*), Jesus Bigornia (*Bulletin*), Antonio Alano (*Herald*), Rolando Espina (*Chronicle*), Mike Roxas (*El Debate*), Domingo Quimlat (*Taliba*), Ladislao Bella-Subang (*Mabuhay*), Pete Montañon (*Star Reporter*), Pete Deyto (*Daily Record*), Rufo Cuadra (*PPI*), and Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

Malacañang announced today the appointment of veteran radioman Antonio Romero, as assistant secretary for radio and television, and newspaperman Antonio P. Garcia, as editorial officer and director of research and special projects. The announcement was made by Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc. The appointments complete the top-level reorganization of the Malacañang press office under Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

Romero will take the place of former Assistant Secretary for radio and television Angelo Castro, who tendered his resignation last week to join a private firm. Garcia will head a reorganized section with added function to meet the needs of the Administration.

President Macapagal today assured a seven-man Korean goodwill mission that the Philippines will always stand ready to do its share in resisting communist domination in this part of the world.

The President made the statement in the course of the call at Malacañang this afternoon of the goodwill missioners headed by Ambassador Jong Pil Kim. They were accompanied by Korean Ambassador Honkon Lee, and Ambassador Arreglado and Vicente Singson of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The Chief Executive said the Philippines, under the stewardship of the present administration, was determined to exclude any foreign ideology that threatens its democratic way of life. He said that this was being done by means of a two-pronged attack; namely, the use of military force and the advancement of the socio-economic state of the country.

Other members of the goodwill mission are Major General Chuy Kon Lim, deputy minister of National Defense; Jung Sun Suk, Korean G-2; Kyu Sup Shung, director of the Korean bureau of information; Col. Tack Keun Lee, chief of protocol of the Korean army; Lt. Col. Fang In Kim, assistant G-2; and Soon Jin Choi, public relations officer.

The President made it clear this evening that he was not turning his back on congressional cooperation to his administration's socio-economic program and that, on the other hand, he "certainly welcomes" cooperation from the law-making body.

"I will certainly welcome cooperation from Congress in order to push through the Administration's program," he said. "I need such cooperation."

But at the same time, he said, "it appears that both Houses of Congress are in no position at this time to extend that cooperation since they are not yet organized."

Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova confirmed this evening that Agapito R. Conchu has been designated as acting commissioner of immigration, vice Emilio L. Galang who retired, effective today.

Hechanova also confirmed that former Rep. Benedicto Padilla has been designated as acting commissioner of internal revenue, vice Melecio R. Domingo, who was detailed in the office of the Secretary of Finance.

**February 20.**—THIS morning the President conferred with Secretary of Public Works Paulino T. Cases and Undersecretary Rafael Contreras, who called to brief the Chief Executive on problems and projects undertaken by their department.

The President conferred with Public Works Secretary Paulino T. Cases and Undersecretary Rafael Contreras on the projected transfer of the Government Telephone System to private ownership, in line with his policy for the government to leave the business field to private enterprise.

During his meeting with Cases and Contreras the President ordered a review of all contracts entered into by the Department of Public Works during the closing months of the last administration.

This afternoon the President conferred with former Rep. Benedicto Padilla, newly-appointed commissioner of internal revenue, on the steps to be taken to increase the BIR's tax collections this year.

The President told Padilla that, properly directed, the government's tax-collection drive could realize P100 million in additional revenues. He also asked the new BIR chief to introduce a new "moral tone" in the administration of the principal tax-collecting arm of the government.

The President revoked today the authority granted by the preceding administration to the provincial governor of Iloilo to exercise jointly with the highway district engineer supervision over nationally-financed public works projects in Iloilo.

In a communication signed by Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc and addressed to Public Works Secretary Paulino Cases, who recommended the revocations, the President also withdrew the authority of the Iloilo provincial executive to exercise control and supervision over public works projects jointly financed from national and provincial funds.



In recommending their revocations, Cases said that “apart from considerations of efficiency and efficacy in the administration and implementation of public works projects, there is want of legal authority on the part of the provincial governor to exercise such power.”

Cases contended that the power of supervision over public works projects financed from national funds was exclusively vested in the director of public works and the commissioner of public highways to be exercised in the provinces through their respective district or highway engineers.

As to highways projects partly financed from national and partly from provincial funds, supervision and control is vested exclusively by law in the commissioner of public highways, according to Secretary Cases.

The President backed up today Acting Customs Commissioner Cesar C. Climaco in resisting pressure of politicians in the release of merchandise at the customs. He told Climaco and the Customs officials and employees to disregard such pressure “from political sources,” and pledged to back up the action of the Customs personnel.

The President’s stand was considered significant in view of the report that one of the politicians who has sought political pressure of Customs employees was a ranking LP leader from Pampanga, the President’s home province.

“The law must apply equally to all,” was the President’s order to the Customs officials.

President Macapagal directed today the National Marketing Corporation to undertake immediate studies to stabilize the prices of prime commodities, particularly milk, sardines, corned beef, and other foodstuffs that are most in demand by the masses.

The President issued the directive to Teofilo D. Reyes, Sr., and Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, general manager and director, respectively, of the NAMARCO in the course of a conference at Malacañang this evening, in view of the dwindling supply of these commodities in NAMARCO stocks.

General Manager Reyes proposed that the NAMARCO import the commodities at the preferred rate of exchange, but the President said this would be an exemption to the provisions of his decontrol program which could be used as a precedent by others.

The Chief Executive this evening also conferred with acting Commissioner Benedicto Padilla of the Bureau of Internal Revenue whom he directed to intensify collection and to set a new moral tone in the bureau.

The President said that with an improved and intensified system of collection, he expects an increase in revenue by about P100 million.

President Macapagal this evening renewed his attacks on the sugar bloc in a strongly worded statement. The President named names.

He accused leaders of the bloc of primarily working for their personal vested interests and of insincerity, attributing the paralyzation of work in both chambers of Congress to the bloc’s determined effort to control the lawmaking body.

The statement followed close on the heels of replies from congressmen, whose names the President had mentioned, but who denied they were members of the bloc. The replies were made in answer to a breakfast statement the other day in which the Chief Executive, in effect, accused the NP Congress leaders of insincerity for offering their cooperation while placing Congress in the hands of members who, the President said, were leaders of the sugar bloc.

In his statement this evening the President also attempted to draw the extent of the power of the sugar bloc and decried the failure of Congress to start acting on vital measures.

He attributed the paralyzation of Congress to a determined effort, to install in power in both chambers the leaders of vested interests which, he said, comprised the sugar bloc.

President Macapagal had warned that to put Congress under the control of vested interests would be inimical to the public interest.

The President said Sen. Fernando Lopez and Rep. Jose Aldeguer (N. Iloilo), Rep. Francisco Ortega (N. La Union), Rep. Ramon Mitra (N. Mt. Province), and Rep. Lorenzo Teves (N. Negros Oriental) are the congressional leaders of the sugar bloc within the sugar industry.

**February 21.**—AT BREAKFAST this morning President Macapagal made another bid for congressional support to his five-year socio-economic program in order to provide a better life for the people and put the country on the road to real prosperity.

Showing concern over the welfare of the people in the face of a Congress controlled by vested interests, the President told members of the Senate Press Club at a breakfast in Malacañang this morning that he was prepared to discharge his sworn duties of protecting the interests of the people regardless of obstacles.

The President said the cooperation of both the Executive Department and Congress is needed in order to serve the best interests of the people. But he said Congress would not be able to give that cooperation unless it was first organized.

The President expressed the hope that Congress will not withhold that cooperation, particularly in the passage of administration measures which are part of the five-year socio-economic program.

The President also proposed a study and revision of the tax structure, to remove inequities and distribute the tax burden evenly.

Present at the breakfast were Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova; Benjamin Rodriguez (*Bulletin*), Senate Press Club president; Ariel Bocobo (*Herald*); Manuel Salak, Jr., (*Manila Times*); (*Evening Chronicle*); Pete Mangahas (*Mabuhay*); Luis Beltran (*Evening News*); Ruben de Leon (*Philippine News Service*); Napoleon Rama (*Philippine Free Press*); Eulogio Benitez (*Manila Times*), and Jose Ching (*Chinese Commercial News*).

District and provincial matters formed the bulk of President Macapagal's work this morning. Most of his visitors were congressmen and governors.

Rep. Jorge Abad of Batanes came to request the President for an LST boat to ferry supplies and passengers to Batanes. Abad informed that it is only once every six months that a boat comes to Batanes from Manila. With the LST boat, transportation to the isolated islands will be as often as once a month, Abad said.

He explained that the maintenance of the boat will be provided for by the passengers' fare and payment for freight.

President Macapagal directed Defense Secretary Macario Peralta to provide Batanes with the much needed boat.

Four congressmen arrived from Cebu to discuss Cebu's problems with the President. The Cebu solons were Reps. Jose Briones, Tereso Dumon, Manuel Zosa, and Ramon Durano.

The division of Samar into three provinces was also discussed with the President by Samar Rep. Eladio Balite. Balite informed the President that he would introduce a bill dividing the province of Samar.

Another Samar solon who called on the President was Rep. Felipe Abrigo.

Rep. Ramon Tabiana of the third district of Iloilo came to request the President the release of funds for the establishment of a hydro-electric plant and an irrigation system in his district.

Other callers were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez; Secretary Macario Peralta; Rep. Jovito Salonga of the 2nd District of Rizal; Rep. Vincenzo Sagun, Zamboanga del Sur; Rep. Vicente de Lara, Misamis Oriental; Rep. Marcial Pimentel, Camarines Norte; Rep. Tito Dupaya, Cagayan; Gov. Dominador de Asis; Gov. Eulogio de Guzman; Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban; Antonio Esteban; Ex-Rep. Samuel Reyes; and Ex-Gov. Silvino Gumpal.

President Macapagal hailed today the successful space flight of U.S. astronaut John Glenn, Jr., around the world as a “distinctive and significant” accomplishment,

In a statement greeting the United States on the occasion of Glenn’s magnificent accomplishment, the President said:

“In the name of the Filipino people and on my own, I greet the United States on the successful space flight of astronaut John H. Glenn, Jr., around the earth.

“I consider this magnificent accomplishment both distinctive and significant, because, it has produced a psychological impact on free peoples everywhere which is so necessary in the current struggle between the Western and Eastern blocs. It has bolstered the morale of those whose faith in the democratic way of life wavered during those times when the communist bloc seemed to have the upperhand.”

The President directed today Administrator Cesar Climaco of the Office of Economic Coordination to transfer, through public bidding, the arrastre service in the port of Manila to a private enterprise. The President’s directive is in line with the government’s policy of withdrawing from fields where private sector can take over.

Earlier this afternoon the President conferred with officials of the Development Bank of the Philippines and the Philippine Air Lines on the financing of the proposed resumption of PAL international flights.

PAL is applying for a P40 million loan from the DBP to purchase two DC-8 planes to be used for international flights.

Present at the conference were Cesar Climaco, Economic Coordinator; Col. Rene Barretto and Benigno Toda, Jr., president and director, respectively, of the PAL; DBP chairman Pablo Lorenzo; DBP Governors Amado Castro and Enrique Ledesma; and Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

President Macapagal today emphasized three things on the issue of vested interest control of both Houses of Congress:

1. He has not rejected cooperation with Congress but welcomes it.
2. His opposition to the Lopez sugar bloc controlling both houses of Congress is not an excuse for any shortcoming of his administration but a belief in what is not for the good of the country.
3. He intends to succeed in his administration under any circumstances and will offer no excuse for any deficiency or failure at the end of his term.

President Macapagal had rejected criticism from Congress that many of his presidential appointees were “lameducks.”

Press Secretary Hechanova said that lameducks “are the candidates of the majority party who lose an election despite the advantages of being in power.” Candidates belonging to the opposition party who lost an election are not

lameducks, he said, because their defeat may not necessarily be due to their lack of merit but to the weakness of their party.

**February 22.**—TOP officials of a New York bank offered this morning their support to the Administration's socio-economic program during a courtesy call on the President and the First Lady.

Mr. William S. Renchard and Mr. Charles B. Love, president and vice-president, respectively, of the Chemical Bank New York Trust Co., also appraised President Macapagal for the favorable reaction abroad to the Administration's socio-economic and decontrol programs.

The New York bank officials were accompanied by Finance Secretary Fernando Sison and Manuel J. Marquez of the finance division of the Philippine Mission to Washington.

Others who called on the President were Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevosio and Reparations Commissioner Calixto Zaldivar.

"Let's have science and not politics."

With these words, President Macapagal administered today the oath of office to Dr. Juan Salcedo, Jr., as acting chairman of the National Science Development Board in a ceremony held at Malacañang.

Present at the induction were ranking NSDB officials and immediate members of Dr. Salcedo's family.

Dr. Salcedo was dean of the college of medicine of the Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center prior to his designation as NSDB chairman. He replaces suspended Chairman Paulino J. Garcia. He is a product of the University of the Philippines, where he graduated second in his class of 1929 of the Columbia University, where he earned a master's degree in biochemistry as a William J. Gies fellow; and of the University of Chicago and Johns Hopkins University.

Because of his outstanding contributions to science, especially in the fields of biochemistry, medical education, nutrition, public health, and science education, numerous awards and several fellowships had been conferred upon him here and abroad by civic and scientific organizations, government boards, and committees.

President Macapagal ordered today the suspension of Deputy Commissioner Fausto Varela of the Civil Service pending the investigation of certain charges filed against him with Malacañang.

In a letter dispatched to Varela by Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc by authority of the President, the deputy commissioner was given 72 hours within which to explain why no disciplinary action should be taken against him.

Commissioner Varela had been charged with grave misconduct in office, insubordination, discourtesy, and violation of Administrative Order No. 46, series of 1937. Complainants were Civil Service Commissioner Amado del Rosario and 14 other officials and employees of the legal division of the same office.

Varela was also accused of violating Administrative Order No. 46, issued by the late President Quezon in 1937, prescribing rules regarding the practice of officials and employees in the government to discuss or clarify all differences of opinion on public matters in the press.

President Macapagal declared this evening that he never vowed to destroy the sugar industry, in answer to a charge made by Sen. Fernando Lopez in a privilege speech this morning at the Senate.

"I think Sen. Lopez equates in his mind the sugar bloc with the sugar industry. The sugar bloc is a political group led by him and his brother, Eugenio within the industry." It is not the same as the sugar industry," the President said.

He added:

“My administration is ready to help boost the sugar industry because I know that it is one of the cornerstones of our economy. If any bloc within the industry would rather engage in a political struggle than in a cooperative economic effort, the Administration will act accordingly to protect the industry as a whole and the wellbeing of the country. To charge me, therefore, with attempting to destroy the sugar industry is to indulge in a wild, unfounded accusation.”

The President stressed that on the question of congressional cooperation, he would judge the matter on the basis of actual action and not avowals. The move of the present leaders of Congress to place both chambers of Congress under the control of Sugar Bloc leaders did not offer a favorable prospect for cooperation for the general welfare of the people, the President said.

In a letter which he sent to the House leader today, the Chief Executive told Romualdez that the information he was looking for could be found on page 31 of Annex A of the state-of-the-nation message, a complete volume of which had already been sent to Romualdez.

“On this page of the message, the Stabilization Fund was discussed in detail, including the inflow of foreign exchange, the sources and the breakdown of special financing, and other pertinent information, as well as the negotiations being undertaken under U.S. Public Law 480, and with the Export-Import Bank of Washington,” the President wrote.

Romualdez had written to the President asking for information on the nature, terms and conditions, and other pertinent data on the Stabilization Fund and had made his request on the basis of what was contained on page 18 of the President’s state-of-the-nation message to Congress.

The President directed this evening Abelardo Subido, chairman of the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee, to give adequate protection to a complainant in the kickback racket at the NASSCO, which is now under investigation.

In another wire the President requested Davao City Mayor Carmelo Porras to investigate the alleged attempt to whitewash the mauling of a newsboy inside a restaurant in Davao City, allegedly by the police.

Reacting sharply to press reports of the alleged attempts to defeat the Administration’s drive against graft and corruption, the President told Subido:

“We must see to it that complainants in graft cases are protected in order to serve the ends of good government.”

The President gave his order after reading an item in an afternoon paper in which it was reported that Mrs. Clara Makalintal, widow of a NASSCO employee, had moved for postponement of the probe of the NASSCO because of alleged threats against her.

**February 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal called on the people today to patronize local goods, saying that every Filipino who utilizes Philippine-made products performs “not only a deed of wisdom but an act of patriotism.”

In a speech delivered before the 1962 NEPA Week luncheon-program held at the Manila Hotel’s Winter Garden this noon, the President said: As a Filipino, I shall find highest happiness on the day when Filipinos, holding admiringly in their hands a local product, shall say with pride. “This is made in the Philippines!”

The President paid tribute to founders of the NEPA movement which, he said, gives wholesomeness and vigor to the economic effort and stimulates the development of a sound economy. He said that the Administration is ready to help the organization in the attainment of its goals within the context of the nation’s overall socio-economic program.

The Chief Executive was introduced by P. E. Domingo, NEPA president, who called him “the greatest exponent of nationalism in the country today.”

Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal presented the plaques to the NEPA awardees this year; namely, Toribio Teodoro, for having pioneered in the shoe industry: Jose P. Marcelo, for having pioneered in the steel industry: Gonzalo Puyat who was represented by Gonzalo Puyat II, for having pioneered in billiard tables and bowling alley manufacturing; and Vicente Madrigal, who was represented by Mrs. Chito Madrigal Vasquez for having pioneered in Filipino inter-ocean shipping.

President and Mrs. Macapagal, in turn, were presented gifts consisting of a *barong*, a *buntal hat*, and an abaca handbag by NEPA President Domingo assisted by Mrs. Servillano Batac and Mrs. Filemon Zablan.

After the speech President and Mrs. Macapagal viewed the NEPA exhibits at the gallery of the Winter Garden.

Among those present at the luncheon-program were Servillano Batac, NEPA vice-president; Filemon Zablan, NEPA treasurer; NEPA Directors Domingo Guevara, Daniel Gomez, and Teofilo Reyes. Jr.; Public Works Secretary Paulino T. Cases; Industry Undersecretary Jovito Rivera; Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Pamontjak; Vietnamese Ambassador Tran Huu; Howard Parsons, economic counsellor, US embassy in Manila; Jose P. Marcelo; and Augusto Espiritu.

From the Manila Hotel, the President and the First Lady returned to Malacañang where the Chief Executive resumed receiving scheduled callers.

In the afternoon the First Couple entertained at merienda officers and members of the Liberal Party league of elective provincial and city officials.

In the evening the President inducted into office Fulvio Pelaez as chairman of the board of directors of the Cebu Portland Cement Company, and Manuel R. Torres, as a commissioner of the Games and Amusement Board.

Present at the induction ceremonies were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal, Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Jr., Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Gov. Jose Neri of Camiguin, Mayor Salvador Calo of Butuan City, Mayor Justiniano Borja of Cagayan de Oro; and friends and relatives of the inductees, including Bonifacio Torres, Jr., Jose Torres Delfin Maralina, Ernesto T. Sordan, Laureano Masellana, and Federico Cabiling

The President substantiated this evening his charge that the Lopez brothers' sugar bloc had used political power to promote their business interests. He released for publication the breakdown of Lopez bloc loans secured from government banking institutions amounting to approximately P30 million.

**February 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today decided to submit to Congress on Monday a bill calling for P30 million for the rehabilitation of public works damaged by calamities and floods.

The President made this decision during a conference with national, provincial, and city officials this noon at former Rep. Marcos Calo's residence in Butuan City during which he also ordered the dredging of the Agusan River.

Later, at an impromptu press interview with Manila newsmen, the President said the action of the House of Representatives of setting aside consideration of the bill calling for P20 million calamity fund and considering instead a P5 million relief bill for Davao alone, was not an act of cooperation at all. And this act of non-cooperation is also reflected in the Senate, the President added.

Commenting on press reports on President Garcia's criticisms, President Macapagal told newsmen that “former President Garcia should not be too critical this early of what I have done in 45 days. I am only trying my best to clear up the mess that he himself created during the last five years.”

In conference with Public Works Secretary Paulino T. Cases, Director Villanueva, Rep. Guillermo Sanchez, Gov. Democrito Plaza, Mayor Salvador Calo, and others, the President was informed that the damage amounted roughly P10 million in public works, private property, crops, and livestock.

The President arrived at the Bancassi Airport at 10:45 a.m. and was greeted by a large crowd headed by government officials.

From the airport, he motored in a truck convoy to the city through deep-rutted muddy roads.

The people were surprised to find the First Family in their midst. The President drew more cheers as he rolled up his pants and waded into the water from the street to Mayor Calo's house, a block from the swift-flowing Aguan River.

After a hurried lunch, the President, accompanied by officials, motored to barrio Magallanes to look into the feasibility of dynamiting the huge sandbars at the mouth of the river which obstruct the normal outflow of water to the sea.

The President spent the night in Butuan City.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

**President's Month in Review: February 25 - March 3, 1962**



## **President's Week in Review: March 4-10, 1962**

### **Official Week in Review**

**March 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal appealed anew for general support to the socio-economic program of his administration, saying it was designed to bring about a better life for the people.

In brief remarks delivered at the inauguration of a barrio health center in Mandaluyong, Rizal, this afternoon the President said:

“My task as President is difficult and the obstacles are many and formidable but I am confident that despite everything, my administration will succeed to lay the foundations for a better life and happy days for our people.”

Speaking extemporaneously, the President continued: “There will be difficulties but these will be temporary. There will be powerful men and groups who stand in the way but they will not deter us from laboring mightily to give opportunity to the common people for a good life.”

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President motored to Mandaluyong this afternoon where he inaugurated the health center in barrio Plainview. He also administered the oaths to the newly elected council of the barrio.

Inducted were Ildefonso de Guzman, barrio lieutenant; Juan C. Antonio, Salvador Velasquez, Rodolfo Ramos, and Salvador Culasino, vice barrio lieutenants; Ariston Arandilla, treasurer; and Nemesio Gubatan, Esteban Tajo, Rafael Lim, and Jacobo Feliciano, barrio councilors.

Also present at the ceremony were Health Secretary Francisco Q. Duque, Rizal Gov. Isidro Rodriguez and Mandaluyong Mayor Amado Reyes.

The President spent the morning studying pending state matters. At about 11:30 a.m., together with the First Lady and his children Arthur, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr., the President heard mass said at the Malacañang Chapel.

**March 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal affixed this morning his signature to a message that will appear on the flyleaf of more than 26 million textbooks slated for distribution to Filipino grade school students.

The production of textbooks is jointly financed by the U.S. Agency for International Development, the National Economic Council, and the Bureau of Public Schools.

The five-year project, launched in June, 1960, is expected to alleviate the shortage of books in the public school, at a cost of P71 million with a \$5 million U.S. counterpart funds to import printing paper.

The peso counterpart will defray printing and distribution expenses. Printing of the textbooks is being undertaken by Filipino printers.

Present at the signing were Minister Paul D. Summers, AID Director; Cornelio Balmaceda, NEC chairman; Education Secretary Alejandro Roces; Public Schools Director Benigno Aldana; and Dr. Earle Boshall AID education division chief.

President Macapagal reiterated today his determination to promote the growth and advancement of the Philippine sugar industry.

The Chief Executive conferred with newly-elected officers of the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters, led by their president, Jose Mapa Gomez, who called on him at Malacañang this morning.

The President also appraised the sugar planters of the steps taken by the Philippine Government to bring to the attention of the United States Government the adverse effects on the local sugar industry, in particular, and on the national economy, in general, that the proposed global sugar quota system would bring about.

In turn, the sugar planters pledged their cooperation to the economic policies of the President.

They lauded the efforts of the Administration to insure the survival of the sugar industry in the face of American proposals to scrap premium prices for Philippine sugar in the U.S. market.

Present at the conference were Eloy Baluyot, first vice-president ; Dr. Trino Montinola, second vice-president; Ciro Locsin, third vice-president; Jess Lazatin, treasurer; Ramon Nolan, executive secretary; and Timoteo Consing, Jr., Ramon de la Rama, Mataeo Treves, directors; Col. Julian T. Chavez and Jesus Clemente, advisers.

Also present were Amado G. Garcia, acting president of the Sugar Producers Cooperative Marketing Association; Ernesto V. Santos, Monetary Board member; and Aquiles Lopez and Luiz Lopez.

Foreign and local business executives expressed favorable views on the decontrol measure instituted by the Administration, during their call on President Macapagal at Malacañang this morning.

David Rockefeller, president of the Chase Manhattan National Bank of New York, expressed enthusiasm over the economic measures adopted by President Macapagal to better the lot of his people.

Cornelius Starr, Earl Carroll, and former Ambassador Felino Neri, insurance executives, congratulated the President for instituting full decontrol. Accompanied by Insurance Commissioner Francisco Mandañas, they called at Malacañang to pay their respects.

Leaders in the cottage industries also called to express their gratitude for President Macapagal's prompt recommendation to Congress for the enactment of a law providing for the promotion of small industries.

Hilarion Henares, president of the Home Industries Association of the Philippines, Inc., said that it was only the Macapagal administration which had paid "more than lip service" to the welfare of the masses through the promotion of small industries.

Ambassador Mariano Vidal Tolosana of Spain also called to say goodbye prior to his return to his home country on March 7.

The Chief Executive received callers until 1 p.m. Other visitors included delegation from Davao headed by Gov. Vicente Duterte and from Quezon province led by Gov. Claro Robles.

Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova said this evening that Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno has a free hand in the case of Harry Stonehill.

The Press Secretary made this statement to put on record the attitude of President Macapagal on the case against the business tycoon who is facing serious charges.

Hechanova said the President had given all his department secretaries full authority and responsibility in all matters pertaining to their respective departments but that he holds them responsible for the proper exercise of such authority.

Insofar as the case against Stonehill was concerned, Secretary Diokno has full authority because it involves questions of law which is within the proper jurisdiction of the justice secretary, Hechanova said.

**March 6.**—THIS morning the President motored to the GSIS building on Arroceros Street where he addressed the 15th national convention of provincial and city treasurers and assessors of the Philippines.

Arriving there about 10 a.m., the President was introduced by Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison. His speech lasted about 31 minutes.

President Macapagal pledged in his speech his Administration's determination to see to it that all public funds that flow into the coffers of the government are "spent judiciously and solely for the interest of the people."

"I will not countenance the indiscriminate, wanton, and reckless expenditure of public funds nor will I be a party to any scheme that would use government revenues or public funds to promote or advance, particularly the political interests of any group, including my own political party," he declared.

The President set down this firm declaration of his administration's stand on public funds in his remarks before the 15th annual convention of Provincial and City Treasurers and Assessors Association at the GSIS building.

The Chief Executive also praised the Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison for his dedication and devotion to the welfare of the Filipino people.

The President called Secretary Sison a "miracle man" for obtaining a stabilization loan of \$300 million from the public and private banking institutions in the United States to support the Administration's decontrol program.

The Finance Secretary was also congratulated by President Macapagal for the able and efficient manner in which he discharges his responsibilities as acting finance secretary.

Provincial and city treasurers and assessors expressed their support for President Macapagal's program of government and pledged to exert their utmost in helping bring about its full implementation in a resolution which was unanimously approved at the inaugural session of the 15th national convention of the Provincial and City Treasurers and Assessors Association.

PACTAA President Jorge Labayo presented the resolution to President Macapagal before the Chief Executive addressed the members of the association at the GSIS auditorium.

This afternoon the President conferred with his top economic advisers on the formulation of a policy governing government participation in two proposed integrated steel mills.

During a two and a half-hour conference with his advisers, the President thoroughly discussed the soundness of the NASSCO Integrated Steel Mill in Iligan and the Sta. Ines Steel Mill in Luzon, and the advisability of government participation in these ventures.

In calling the conference, the President took cognizance of the vital importance of the steel industry in the promotion of heavy industries which use steel and iron as raw materials.

The President, however, decided to call another meeting, in view of the large amounts of money involved and the risks that had to be taken in the mining phase.

Present at the conference were Finance Acting Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, OEC Administrator Cesar C. Climaco, NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Central Bank Governor Andres V. Castillo, Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevos, Amado Castro of the Monetary Board, Manuel Marquez of the Bankers Association of the Philippines, and Jesus Cabarrus, president of the Marinduque Iron Mines.

Also present were Bernardo Abrera, NASSCO general manager; Sirio Reyes, NASSCO technical consultant; and Justice Alex Reyes and Alfonso Arellano, chairman and general manager, respectively, of the Sta. Inez Mines.

The President also inducted Amado Garcia as acting representative of the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters to the Sugar Quota Administration.

Garcia was formerly acting president of the Sugar Producers Cooperative Marketing Association.

The oath-taking was witnessed by Eloy Baluyot, vice-president of the NFSP; Gerry Rodriguez, president of the Sugar Producers Cooperative Marketing Association; and Luiz Lopez, a director of the SPCMA.

**March 7.**—THE President had a two-hour breakfast conference today with Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez, National Economic Council Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Reparations Commissioner Calixto Zaldivar, and former Justice Jose Bengzon, chief of the Reparations Mission to Japan.

Bengzon reported on the results of his mission to Japan.

President Macapagal received today congressmen and governors and discussed with them the problems of their respective districts.

Rep. Ramon Bagatsing, after discussing local problems with the President, presented Chow Ching-Wen, an anti-communist leader from Hongkong, who is in the Philippines on a speaking tour. With Mr. Chow were Mrs. Chow, Mr. and Mrs. Pao Shih Tien, and Miss Fragrance Pao.

The President also received officers of the United Parent-Teachers Association of the Philippines (UPTAP).

The group was led by Cebu Gov. Francisco Remotigue, UPTAP president. Other officers of the organization were ex-governor Felicisimo Aquino, vice-president; Manuel Agusting treasurer; Dr. Bienvenido Nebres, auditor; Directors Vicente Sarmiento and Jesus Leon; Vice-Gov. Faustino Vigo; Timoteo D. Macaraeg, Dominador Lopez, and Mrs. Hortencia Cayetano.

The President's congressional callers included Rep. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Rep. Simeon Valdez of Ilocos Norte, Rep. Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur, Rep. Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental, Rep. Jovito Salonga, Rep. Justo Albert, Rep. Cornelio Villareal of Capiz, Rep. Manuel Cases of La Union, Rep. Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur, Rep. Justiniano Montano of Cavite, Rep. Rufino Antonio of Rizal, Rep. Jose Albert, and Rep. Fidel Santiago of Manila, Gov. Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, Gov. Juan G. Frivaldo of Sorsogon; Gov. Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban; and Lt. Gov. Jose Neri of Camiguin Island.

At noon the President and the First Lady honored Ambassador and Mrs. Benigno Toda, Sr., at a luncheon.

Also present at the luncheon were Mons. Salvatore Siino, apostolic nuncio, Ambassador Mariano Vidal Tolosana of Spain, Ambassador Eugenio Rubino of Italy, Ambassador and Mrs. Jose Muñoz Zapata of Mexico, Health Secretary and Mrs. Francisco Duque, Mrs. Benigno Toda, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Jesus Cabarrus, Don Eduardo Yrezabal, and Miss Lourdes Liongson.

The President sends to Congress today a bill which provides for the gradual elimination of the subsidy for locally grown Virginia leaf tobacco and for the removal of the ban on the importation of the product.

Final touches on the bill, which embodies the new Administration's policy on the tobacco industry, were made at a two-hour Cabinet meeting this afternoon presided by President Macapagal at Malacañang.

The bill would amend all the three laws on the local Virginia leaf industry. These are Republic Act 698, which protects the infant industry by banning importation; R. A. 1198, which provides subsidy through the Agricultural

Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration; and R. A. 2265, which transfers the tobacco operations of the A.C.C.F.A. to the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

The bill, as finally drafted, aimed to:

1. Improve the quality of the local product;
2. Assure the local growers of Virginia leaf tobacco of a ready market;
3. Dispose existing surplus stocks in the hands of the A.C.C.F.A. and the P.V.T.A.

The policy was in line with the Administration's program to return the country to a free enterprise economy, according to Press Secretary Rufino Hechanova.

Under the bill the subsidy to the tobacco industry, a program which calls for P70 million annually, would be eliminated in four years.

**March 8.**—THIS morning President Macapagal received W. Averell Harriman, United States assistant secretary of the state for Far Eastern Affairs, who called at Malacañang to pay his respects.

During the call the President discussed briefly with Harriman Philippine-American relations and matters affecting Asian countries.

Accompanied by U.S. Ambassador William E. Stevenson, Harriman came to Malacañang about 4 p.m. He was with the President about half an hour.

Harriman arrived in Manila this morning to preside over a two-day conference of American ambassadors to 13 Asian nations scheduled to open in Baguio on Saturday.

President Macapagal sent today a bill to Congress seeking the stabilization of the local Virginia tobacco industry confident it would go a long way, if approved, towards enhancing the growth of the industry and the national economy.

The bill provides subsidy for the four highest grades the first year, for the three highest grades the second year, and for the two highest grades for the third year and fourth years. This is to induce the farmers to improve the quality of their tobacco produce.

It was explained that the withdrawal of subsidy must be gradual to insure an orderly transition from total subsidy to free enterprise.

It was also explained that the farmer will be prepared to accept the system of free enterprise, provided he is assured that commodity loans on his harvest are available in amounts commensurate with his cost of production.

The urgency of ACCFA's liquidating its tobacco stocks was stressed because they are fast deteriorating and the cost of maintenance in warehouses is mounting daily.

The bill will also encourage Filipinos to establish new cigarette factories because it does not limit the importation of Virginia type leaf to the proportion of specific taxes paid by existing factories which are mostly alien-controlled.

The tobacco farmers themselves will benefit from the profit generated by the importation of Virginia leaf because the importer will contribute to the NSDB to undertake studies to improve the quality of the locally grown Virginia tobacco, it was pointed out.

This evening the President conferred with the NARIC board on the rice procurement program of the Administration.

Chairman Jose Calderon and Director Jose Feliciano, who is at the same time chairman of the Presidential Rice and Corn Procurement Committee, assured the President that the NARIC is watching closely the trend in rice prices and is ready to flood the market with rice at the slightest rise in prices.

They informed the Chief Executive that there is in stock in NARIC bodegas 700,000 cavanos of clean rice and that the procurement program is continuing at the rate of 100,000 cavanos of palay daily, with over 1½ million sacks of palay already in stockpile.

The NARIC officials also informed the President that NARIC rice is being sold in Davao and Agusan at P1.00 a ganta in order to aid the flood victims.

Among those who conferred with the President, besides Feliciano and Calderon, were NARIC Board Directors Agustin Bagasao, Manuel Quijano, and Jose Escribano.

**March 9.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today swore into office Constantino Vercelles, former Mayor of Agoon, La Union, as acting member of the board of directors of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

The oath-taking was witnessed by Rep. Manuel Cases and Gov. Eulogio de Guzman of La Union and the newly appointed PVTA director's daughter, Venancia Vercelles.

Mayor Arsenio Lacson, in his capacity as chairman of the League of Governors and City Mayors, took up with the President several matters concerning the league.

Mayor Lacson also accompanied several Cotabato municipal mayors who discussed with the President several problems affecting their respective towns.

Mayor Leopoldo R. Jalandoni of Midsayap, Cotabato, urged the immediate release of funds to complete the P6.9 million Midsayap irrigation project, which is the biggest in Mindanao.

Vice-Mayor Bernabe Porras and former Mayor Amador Anqui of Mlang, Cotabato, also requested the completion of the irrigation project in their town.

Others in the Cotabato group were Vice-Mayor Jesus Tadeo of Maitum, former Mayor Ramon Cantiller of Tupi, former Mayor Gil Gadi of Kidapawan, former Councilor Federico Dizon of Koronadal, Luciano Cunanan, president of the Mindanao Farmers' Association, Cotabato City Councilor Angel Bacani, Isaac Bornea, and Nemesio Ganchero.

A delegation of mayors of Southern Leyte, members and officers of the Rizal Mayors League, and Circle 107 of the San Fernando, Pampanga, Boy Scouts Council were received by the President at the social hall.

Led by Ex-Rep. Francisco M. Pajao, the Southern Leyte delegation made up of Mayors Emilio Monton, Jose Veloso, Damian Puray, and Martin Jo requested the construction of public works projects in their respective municipalities. Some also took up boundary disputes and appointments of municipal employees.

The Rizal Mayors League led by San Juan Mayor Nicanor Ibuna also consulted the President on public works and fishery problems in their province.

The Pampanga boy scouts headed by Fr. Constantino Panlilio presented to President Macapagal a resolution making him honorary chairman of their council.

Other callers were Eulogio Balao, Director Guillermo Villasur of the Philippine National Bank, former Bulacan Rep. R. Gonzales Lloret, and Benjamin Cortez. The President received callers up to 1 p.m.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive presided over his third press conference held at the ceremonial hall at Malacañang.

At 5 p.m. he conferred with representatives of copra producers and exporters; namely, Santiago Gancayco and Godofredo Reyes, Jr., secretary-treasurer and executive secretary, respectively, of the Philippine Coconut Producers Federation, Inc.; and James Jacobo and James Liu, president and board member, respectively, of the Philippine Copra Exporters Association.

Also present were Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda of the National Economic Council, Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Gov. Andres Castillo of the Central Bank, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, and Feliciano de Gala and Jose Felix, chairman-general manager and second assistant, respectively, of the Philippine Coconut Administration.

President and Mrs. Macapagal honored visiting United States state department officials and ambassadors to Asian nations, with a dinner held at Malacañang this evening.

The American envoys had converged in the Philippines for a two-day conference which is scheduled to start in Baguio tomorrow. The conference will be presided by W. Averell Harriman, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Far Eastern Affairs.

The guests at the dinner are as follows: Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs; Secretary Harriman; U.S. Ambassador Chester Bowles, special White House assistant for Asian, African, and Latin American Affairs to the Philippines; U.S. Ambassador William S. Stevenson; Winthrop G. Brown, U.S. ambassador to Laos; John E. Everton, U.S. ambassador to Burma; William C. Trimble, U.S. ambassador to Cambodia; and their ladies.

Also present were Averey Peterson, department assistant secretary of state for Far Eastern Affairs; and Minister and Mrs. Gordon Mein; and Richard E. Usher of the local U.S. embassy.

**March 10.**—**SPEAKING** at a mammoth anti-Communist youth rally held at the Araneta coliseum this afternoon under the sponsorship of the Philippine Anti-Communist Movement and the Filipino-Chinese Anti-Communist League, President Macapagal cited the positive steps taken by his administration to check the continuing efforts of communism to destroy our democratic institutions and to subvert the youth of the land.

He emphasized that in his administration's belief there was a two-fold answer to communism; namely, knowledge of the communist threat and the strengthening of our free democratic society.

"To fight the enemy we must know the enemy. We must know how it deploys its forces, where it intends to attack, and other matters relative to our defense. Likewise, we must take steps to solidify the foundations of our democratic society and to strengthen the moral fiber of our people," the President said.

In his speech, the Chief Executive also:

—Expressed the nation's gratitude to the PACOM and the FCACL for the help and support extended by these two organizations to the government in its task of warding off the Communist threat.

—Dissected the problem of communism, its motives, its objectives, and its immediate target.

—Warned the youth that the Communists were especially interested in them because of the youth's emotionalism, idealism, frustration, and their susceptibility to extreme solutions.

Press Secretary Hechanova today confirmed reports that President Macapagal has accepted an invitation from President John F. Kennedy to make a ten-day state visit to the United States. However, nothing was said about the date.

*Source:* **Supreme Court Library**

Macapagal, D. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58 (11), cxxv-cxxxi.



## **President's Month in Review: March 11-17, 1962**

**March 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal flew unexpectedly to Mindanao today to inspect the damage caused by flood waters which threatened Butuan City anew.

The President was accompanied by the First Lady and a son. This was the second trip the President made to Mindanao to inspect the damage caused by floods. Recently he visited Davao City.

The visit of the President coincided with fresh reports that flood waters swept anew into Butuan City and rose one foot higher owing to continuous rains for the last three days.

No details were available to newsmen who were surprised by President Macapagal's sudden departure for Mindanao.

An unofficial source indicated that the President flew to Butuan City to follow up relief operations in flood-ravaged Agusan.

It was also held probable that the President may have flown to Iligan City, where the Macapagals own lands and have relatives.

Informed sources said the President cancelled his breakfast conference scheduled tomorrow morning with foreign correspondents.

Mrs. Macapagal, on the other hand, cancelled her engagement with the Manila Jaycerettes at the Manila Hotel this noon.

Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova was not available at his office in Malacañang until press time this evening for more details on President Macapagal's flight to Mindanao.

**March 12.**—THE President said today that the Administration will do away with the blind release of public works funds to gear them to his five-year integrated socio-economic program.

The President issued the statement upon returning from a week-end trip to Davao to see for himself the public works projects which have been the subject of urgent requests for fund releases.

The President said that release will be authorized only for (1) public works projects that promote the economic growth of the country; and (2) projects considered urgent, particularly in calamity-stricken areas.

The President left Manila early yesterday afternoon and headed for Butuan City. Owing to poor facilities at Bancassi airport, however, the Fokker Friendship plane could not land and instead headed for Davao hoping to land at Butuan City on the way back.

On the way back, the presidential plane was again unable to land in Butuan City so the President, accompanied by the First Lady and their children, and former Gov. Serapio Datoc of Zamboanga, returned to Manila, arriving at the Manila International Airport at 5:20 this afternoon.

While the President was in Davao City, more than a thousand employees of the U.S. Tobacco Corporation owned by Harry S. Stonehill marched to Malacañang to seek the early termination of the case against Stonehill.

They claimed that, the machines of the tobacco corporation had been seized, paralyzing the operation of the firm. They pointed out that they were facing hunger because of lack of work.

Assistant Executive Secretary Salvador Mariño met the demonstrators.

**March 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today a delegation of mayors from Iloilo who called at Malacañang to inform him that his fight against vested interests had the full support of the people in their respective localities.

Accompanied by Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo's second district, the mayors also pledged support to the socio-economic program of the Administration.

Among those in the Iloilo delegations were Mayors Ramon Durembes of Dumangas, Santiago Pueg of Pototan, Rafael Lacuesta of Lambunao, Ricardo Provido of Calinog, and Leonardo Aportadera of Dingle; former Mayor Toribio Barrido of Barotac Nuevo; and Vicente Arancillo.

Earlier this morning the President conferred with Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevosos on recommendations of the Council on Administrative Management regarding the projected nation-wide information campaign on the socio-economic program of the Administration.

Adevosos is concurrently chairman of the council which is the presidential advisory body on administrative affairs.

The President also received former Justice Secretary Jose P. Bengzon, chief of the Philippine reparations mission in Japan, who called for final instructions prior to his return to his post in Tokyo sometime this week.

Other callers included Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno, who discussed various legal matters with the President, and Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal who discussed legislative matters.

About noontime the President saw a delegation made up of about 50 prominent citizens of the sub-province of Aurora, headed by Lt. Gov. Pedro Guerrero. They informed the Chief Executive of the desires of the people of their sub-province to have Aurora converted into a full-fledged province.

The delegation included Vice-Mayor Guillermo Gomez of Baler; Councilors Delfin Catipon of Maria Aurora, Angel Dukha of San Luis and Dionisio Amat of Casiguran; and former Mayor Cesario Pimentel.

The Chief Executive conferred today with Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno and Justice Undersecretary Juan Liwag on the Administration's plan to wage a major all-out campaign against smuggling in all forms.

He directed Secretary Diokno and Undersecretary Juan Liwag to:

1. Study ways and means of plugging all loopholes in existing laws governing smuggled goods; and
2. Coordinate the work of various government agencies involved in the apprehension of smugglers.

The President met with Diokno and Liwag this morning. It will be recalled that in his state-of-the-nation address before a joint session of Congress last January the President recommended, among others, the creation of an anti-smuggling office to eradicate smuggling activities.

The President's directive particularly applies to the following forms of smuggling: (1) outright smuggling of highly-dutiable goods; (2) misdeclaration of imports; and (3) under-valuation and over shipment of exports.

Secretary Diokno was directed by the President to work closely with Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison in drafting proposed legislation for the creation of anti-smuggling office as he had advocated in his state-of-the-nation message.

President Macapagal this evening ordered the investigation of the administrative charges filed against Mayor Fidel D. Dones of Cavite City for alleged acts of dishonesty and misconduct in office.

Assistant Solicitor General Esmeraldo Umali was designated to investigate the case:

The charges had been filed by Avelino A. Velasco of Tanza, Cavite Mayor Dones was charged with:

- (1) Having taken undue advantage of his high office and demanded P15,000 from a certain Prospero Sarapdon, contractor, otherwise the respondent would not award the bid which the contractor had won for the construction of the city public market;
- (2) Having received an additional P1,500 from Sarapdon for ordering the release of city funds for the construction of the public market: and
- (3) Ordering Delfin Mateo, then market collector, to collect from different stores and other commercial establishments in the city merchandise and other household necessities for the use of his family without paying for them.

The President left it for the special investigator to determine in the course of the investigation whether the preventive suspension of the respondent would be necessary.

**March 14**—AT BREAKFAST this morning President Macapagal renewed his bid for greater inflow of foreign capital to participate in the implementation of the five-year integrated socio-economic program of the Administration.

In his conference with some local and foreign newspapermen attending the International Press Institute who called on him at Malacañang, the President expressed conviction that foreign capital will start coming in greater volume to participate in the development of the country.

The President said that, with the passage by Congress of the foreign investment bill which he had recommended and the friendly attitude of Filipino citizens towards friendly foreign capital, there is no doubt that foreign investments will come in greater volume.

He told the delegates that although he was in favor of granting certain tax preferential to foreign capitalists, he was pleasantly assured that foreign investors are willing to come in on the same footing, to speed up implementation of the economic program at the earliest possible time.

He said that time is of the essence in the attainment of a higher level of living by the masses of the people, especially those living in the rural areas.

Among those present at the conference were:

Ichitaro Takata, Masuo Ureshino, Matsuo Ozaki, Mitsuo Kuroda of Japan; Melan bin Abdullah of Malaya; Chiayong Chavalit of Thailand; Kenneth Yuk-long of Hongkong; U Win Tin of Burma; Tarzie Vittachi, A. Chowdhury, D. Warner and K. Sung (Asian representatives);

Felix Gonzalez of the *Manila Daily Bulletin*. Celso Cabrera, Oscar Lopez, and Amante Paredes of the *Manila Chronicle*; Go Puan Seng, Jose Chong, and Henry Tiu of the *Fookien Times*; Sebastian Ugarte and Emiliano Jurado of the Philippines *Herald*; Jose Luna Castro and Alberto Rous of the *Times-Mirror-Taliba*; Carlos F. Nivera of Pan-Asian Newspaper Alliance; Ermin Garcia of the *Sunday Punch* (Dagupan City); Sinai Hamada of the *Midland Courier* (Baguio):

Ambassador Prince Rangsiyakorn Aphakorn of Thailand; Ambassador John Arthur Pilcher of Great Britain; Ambassador Jun Tsuchiya of Japan; Commissioner Modesto Farolan and Salvador Peña of the Board of Travel and Tourist Industry; George Porter of the U. S. Embassy; Richard Reynier of Reuters. Ltd.; Michael Jalenques of Agence France Presse; Henry Hartzenbusch of the Associated Press, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ravenholt, observers.

President Macapagal issued Proclamation No. 15, authorizing the Philippine Federation of Private Medical Practitioners, Inc., to conduct a National Educational and Fund Drive from March 15 to April 30 this year Malacañang announced today.

The Chief Executive issued the proclamation to enable the organization to raise sufficient funds to finance the establishment and operation of a geriatrics center.

The President said that the neglect of retired and aging citizens has brought about the feeling of rejection, loneliness, lack of usefulness, and insecurity among the aged. Many of them had turned to begging; thus aggravating the mendicancy problems of the country, he said.

The President ordered today the dismissal of a justice of the peace for misconduct in office on two counts.

Ordered separated from the service was Alfonso E. Conag, JP of Cawayan, Masbate, who was found guilty of having received P100 from one Eugenia Kipti, for the revival of a civil case earlier dismissed by him. Conag was also found guilty of borrowing and failing to pay the amount of P50 from the accused parties facing a criminal action before his sala.

The Chief Executive issued the administrative order dismissing Conag following the investigation of an administrative complaint filed against him by Mrs. Kipti for misconduct in office and bribery.

The charges were investigated by the district judge who found him guilty of misconduct and recommended to Malacañang his suspension from office without pay, with reprimand and warning. The President however ordered his dismissal effective upon receipt of notice.

The President said that for these highly irregular actuation of the official "I find him guilty of misconduct highly prejudicial to the administration of justice. The seriousness of the irregularities committed vitally affects his fitness for his present post."

President Macapagal received the credentials of Yehiel Ilsar as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Israel to the Philippines in ceremonies held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall this afternoon.

In presenting his credentials. Ambassador Ilsar pledged to exert every effort to realize the common objective of "bringing prosperity and happiness to their respective nations and become a bridge between East and West for the common benefit of the people of Asia and for the peace of the world.

Ambassador Ilsar said that the Philippines and Israel share not only the Holy Book but also historical facts in their respective national struggle for independence.

"It is not surprising that both nations cherish the same values and belief in the dignity of the human being," the Ambassador said.

In his response, President Macapagal said that the elevation of the Philippines and Israel of their respective missions to embassy level "indicates mutual satisfaction in the conduct of our relations in the past." He expressed the hope that the two countries will continue to collaborate and assist each other for mutual advantage and progress.

The Ambassador was given military honors upon his arrival at and departure from, Malacañang by a contingent of the Presidential Guard Battalion.

He was presented to President Macapagal by Minister Pedro Angara-Aragon, protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Among those present during the ceremony were Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez, Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc, Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, PRECEP Chairman Eleuterio Adevos, NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Public Works Secretary Paulino T. Cases, Ministers Romeo S. Busuego and Manuel Collantes, Israel Consul General Ernest Simke, Minister Manuel G. Zamora, and DFA Ceremonial Officer Jose Guevara.

This evening President Macapagal reassured that civil liberties would be protected under his administration.

The President gave the firm reassurance as he sent a wire to the Department of National Defense ordering the submission of a report on the case of Quintin Yu, publisher of the *Chinese Commercial News* who had been arrested for suspected subversive activities.

The Chief Executive sent another wire to the Department of Justice likewise ordering the submission of a report on a complaint recently lodged by Max Soliven, publisher of the *Evening News*.

The wires were dispatched by Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc following representations made to the President by the Manila Overseas Press Club for expeditious disposal of the cases and guarantee against violation of press rights and civil liberties.

**March 15.**—GENERAL Marcos Soliman, National Intelligence Coordination Agency chief, reported to President Macapagal this morning on security conditions in Southeast Asia.

The NICA head arrived recently from Bangkok where he attended a conference of security experts from member states of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization.

The Bangkok conference was held to assess conditions in Laos, Vietnam, and other countries in the Far East.

Brigido Valencia, newly-elected president of the Manila Gas Corporation, came to receive instruction from President Macapagal before assuming his post.

Former Lanao del Sur Gov. Alawi Dinakuta, Marawi City Councilor Sheik Muktar Guru, and Manalao Mindalano, also saw the President. Dimakuta, Guru, and Mindanao are leaving shortly on a pilgrimage to Mecca with 1,000 other Moslems.

Earlier, the President received Rep. Eugenio Baltao, Rep. Felicisimo Ocampo and Gov. Eduardo Joson of Nueva Ecija. They discussed local matters with the President.

The President this day appealed to the LP-NP Coalition members of the Lower House to speed up the organization of Congress so that Administration measures implementing the live-year socio-economic program could be acted upon. He made this appeal in a series of conferences with various groups representing the Coalition which won last week the Lower House speakership for Rep. Cornelio T. Villareal.

The President lauded the members of the Lower House “who took the decisive step to save the country from Legislative-Executive deadlock” which had stalled the consideration of vital economic measures. He said that had Congress continued to disregard the Administration measures, “we would have thrown away a golden opportunity to improve the livelihood of our people.”

The President also said that solons who disregard party considerations to enable the Congress to consider urgent economic measures have won the acclaim and gratitude of the people since “time is of the essence and we can afford to continue political wranglings while the great bulk of our people continue to suffer.”

This evening President Macapagal mobilized governmental agencies in a nationwide campaign against all forms of law violations which had impeded the economic development of the country.

In separate telegrams, the President:

(1) Ordered Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevosio to stamp out smuggling. Adevosio was directed to coordinate all anti-smuggling activities of various agencies in order to stop the illegal entry of goods which has resulted in losses in the form of specific taxes and revenues to the government and seriously affected local manufacturing industries;

(2) Ordered Commodore Simeon Castro of the Philippine Navy to eradicate dynamic fishing, in order to prevent the depletion of the fishing resources of the country;

(3) Ordered Col. Nicanor Garcia, chief of the Philippine Constabulary to put a stop to cattle rustling in order to encourage the growth of the local cattle industry;

(4) Sent a directive to Tibursio Severo, director of forestry and chairman of the Reforestation Commission to halt the *kaingin* practice and other violations of forestry laws.

In sending these directives, the President said that these specific assignments should be treated with special consideration by the agencies involved and that he will hold the officials responsible for their implementation.

The President further directed that periodic reports be submitted to him on the progress of the implementation of these directives.

**March 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today pledged his administration to the fulfillment of the principles of government enunciated by the late President Magsaysay.

The President made this pledge at the luncheon commemorating the fifth death anniversary of President Magsaysay held at the Manila Hotel's Winter Garden.

In his address lauding the greatness of the late President, President Macapagal declared, "We are committed to the advancement of the Magsaysay revolution."

"We are committed to the spread of education and the raising of its quality to the more equitable distribution of income and the raising of the living standards of the masses, to freedom of the press, to the preservation of civil service, and the elimination of graft and corruption."

The President said that the first of two processes of the Magsaysay revolution has been accomplished—the liberation of the people to enable them to assert their sovereign will in determining the leadership of their political society, resulting in a government truly by the people.

"It is now my role to liberate them from the shackles of privilege so that the people shall have a government truly for the people," he said.

In his well-applauded speech, President Macapagal also pointed out that in his administration, many men who had worked with the late President are now working with the present Administration, helping in furthering the welfare of the people and the whole nation.

Immediately after the luncheon, the President and the First Lady left for Baguio for their annual three-day spiritual exercises.

President Macapagal arrived in Baguio City at 6:30 this evening to join the annual retreat starting at 6 a.m. tomorrow.

This will be ninth time the President will participate in the religious rites. He is scheduled to leave the Sunnyside Villa, the site of the retreat, Sunday evening.

Before retiring this evening the President had an informal chat with Malacañang newsmen at the Mansion House.

President Macapagal arrived with the First Lady and children and stopped over at the Guest House where he may stay for the night.

During the three-day retreat, the Chief Executive will stay in absolute seclusion and would talk only with Fathers Francisco Araneta, Walter Hogan, and Federico Escaler, the retreat masters. He will check out Sunday evening.

**March 17.**—THE President entered Sunnyside Villa at 6:30 a.m. today and joined several senators and businessmen for a two-day Lenten spiritual retreat.

Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez later followed the Chief Executive to the retreat villa. However, Pelaez will leave the retreat house to address the closing day rites of the Rural Improvement Club of the Philippines at the Teachers' Camp.

At 11 a.m. President Macapagal and his son, Arthur, joined other retreatants in a conference on the influence of religion in the people's way of life.

Three hours later the President plunged into quiet meditation and reflection. At 6:30 p.m. he took his supper and went into another meditation.

The Chief Executive retired at 9:30 p.m.

The President will end his spiritual retreat tomorrow evening and proceed to Manila.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58 (12), cxxxv-cxl.

## **President's Week in Review: March 18-24, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**March 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal left the Sunnyside Villa the evening, ending a two-day religious retreat which he said has “given me physical and spiritual rest.”

The Chief Executive returned to the Guest House shortly after 6:30 p.m. He looked well rested and was in good humor.

The President invited Malacañang newsmen to dinner at the Guest House. After dinner, he gave a press interview.

During the meal the President made off-the-record remarks on the political scene and recalled the thought-provoking lectures of Father Francisco Araneta during the retreat. Araneta was the the retreat master.

President Macapagal is spending the night at the Guest House and will motor down to Manila after lunch tomorrow. He said he was going by car instead of by plane so that he could stop along the way and find out the problems of the people.

Upon arriving at the Guest House from the retreat, the President asked for Manila newspapers and brushed up on latest developments.

He answered newsmen's questions on varied subjects during the interview. He appeared to be in good humor throughout.

The President said this evening that he will follow the tradition set by President Quezon when he leaves for the United States in June.

Under this practice, a President of the Philippines leaving for abroad leaves the ceremonial functions to, the Vice-President and the administrative duties to the executive secretary.

President Macapagal said this practice was followed by all Presidents who came after Quezon.

The President said the exact date of his departure for the US has not been fixed. In all probability he added, he will leave after the current session of Congress.

The President stressed that his visit to the US will primarily be a goodwill trip.

The President, at the informal press conference with Malacañang reporters, also:

1. Said he does not think it would be necessary for Congress to hold a special session when it adjourns in June.

He expressed confidence that the congressmen will work vigorously to enact vital legislation once they buckle down to work.

2. Refused to comment on the reported bid for the speakership by Rep. Jose B. Laurel, Jr., (N, Batangas), nor on the possibility that the Liberals will gain control of the Senate.

This is because he does not want to be accused again of intervening in the affairs of Congress.

3. Said he has not noticed any sign that Mayor Lacson has withdrawn his support for the principles for which the LP has been working.



4. Also said that he would “step in” if Congress investigation of the National Bureau of Investigation woulda not be for constructive purposes.

He said that upon his return to Manila tomorrow he would try to find out the facts behind the probe set against the N.B.I. for alleged violation of the Constitution in connection with the investigation of businessman Harry Stonehill.

Asked to comment on the impending probe of the N. B. I., the President said that if the investigation were for constructive purposes it would be all right. But, if it would be for some other purposes he said, he would have to step in because the N.B.I. was one of the agencies under him. He said he could not afford to have personnel of investigating agencies demoralized.

The President said that he felt physically and spiritually refreshed after his two-day closed retreat at the summer villa of the Society of the Divine Word (SDV) fathers.

**March 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal decided to stay at the Guest House the whole day, postponing his scheduled return to Manila until tomorrow morning.

The Chief Executive and the First Lady and their children were originally scheduled to leave for Manila after lunch today.

Malacañang said the President decided to work on pending state papers.

The President did not receive any caller, but confined himself to paper work.

The Chief Executive felt relaxed after a two-day religious retreat at the Sunnyside Villa. He appeared in good humor and ready to tackle the serious problems of state on his return to Manila tomorrow.

**March 20.**—THE President returned shortly after one o'clock this afternoon from a four-day stay in Baguio where he underwent a two-day Lenten retreat at the Synnyside Villa. He looked relaxed and refreshed.

He arrived with Mrs. Macapagal and their children, Diosdado Jr., and Gloria.

Upon his arrival the President went over state papers which had piled during his absence.

At about 4 p.m. the President went to the Malacañang clinic for a dental examination. From the Malacañang clinic, he returned to the Palace and went over state papers.

Today, the President is scheduled to receive callers.

**March 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today 17 congressmen and governors who came to apprise him of the needs and problems of their respective districts and provinces.

Gov. Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte requested, the release of over 13 million for the construction of the Lanao del Norte capitol building, the repair of roads and bridges destroyed by the recent rains and floods, and other projects.

Catanduanes Provincial Board Member Nicanor Lopez requested the release of funds needed to open roads closed by landslides and for the building of an airport and a pier.

Rep. Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte also sought release of funds to repair and improve the irrigation systems located in Dipolog, Zamboanga del Norte.

Cebu Reps. Tereso Dumon and Ramon Durano conferred with the President on the Administration's 1962-63 budget proposal. The two solons are members of the House committee on appropriations,

Other callers were Gov. Melanio Singson of Isabela, Gov. Felieisimo San Luis of Laguna, Rep. Ramon Bagatsing (Third District, Manila), Rep. Simeon Valdez, (Second District Ilocos Norte), Rep. Marcial Pimentel (Camarines Norte), Rep. Justiniano Montano (Cavite), Rep. Juanita Nepomuceno (First District, Pampanga), Rep. Eladio Caliwara (Second District, Quezon), Rep. Jovito Salonga (Second District, Samar), Rep. Vincenzo Sagun (Zamboanga del Sur), Rep. Felipe Abrigo (Third District, Samar), Public Works Secretary Paulino Cases, and Telecom. Director Ernesto Singson.

The President also conferred with chairman Pablo Lorenzo of the Development Bank of the Philippines, Social Security Administrator Rene Espina and Board Chairman Ramon Diaz, of the Government Service Insurance Systems.

Earlier the President had breakfast conference with Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.

The President attended today the graduation from the fourth grade of his youngest son, Diosdado, Jr. The President took time out from his official duties at Malacañang to motor to St. John's Academy in San Juan. With him was Mrs. Macapagal and the other Macapagal children.

Diosdado, Jr., whose nickname is "Boboy," finished fourth grade in the San Juan Academy elementary department with second honors.

The President was given a seat on the stage and the honor of distributing the certificates of graduation to Diosdado, Jr., and co-graduates.

This evening the President took a major step towards the complete elimination of illegal traffic in smuggled goods by:

- (1) Issuing an executive order appealing to the people, and enjoining all officers and employees of the Executive Branch of the government to cooperate in the drive against smuggled products and to desist from buying, possessing, or using them;

- (2) Forwarding a letter to the Bureau of Internal Revenue expressing concern over illicit and unabated trading in smuggled products, such as "blue seal" cigarettes, and directing the office to intensify the drive against traders, dealers, and possessors of said products;

Submitting to Congress, through the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, a proposed bill amending section 174 of Commonwealth Act 466 by placing the burden of proof upon the possessor of a smuggled product that the articles in his possession were exempted from specific tax and were lawfully issued to him; and

- (4) Creating a committee of four, headed by Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevos, with DND Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, and Justice Secretary Jose T. Diokno as members, in order to coordinate an all-out drive against traffic in smuggled products.

In his letter to Congress, the President pointed out that the present law "makes it extremely difficult, if not practically impossible, to penalize possession of smuggled products such as blue seal cigarettes."

The proposed amendment, by shifting the burden of proof to the possessors of these articles, will eliminate much of the difficulty encountered in the prosecution of tax evaders and will prove an effective deterrent to continued smuggling and illicit trading in these commodities, he said.

**March 22.**—THIS morning President Macapagal and the First Lady led the nation in extending felicitations to Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, president of the First Philippine Republic, on the occasion of his 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday anniversary today.

The President left Malacañang for the Aguinaldo residence in Kawit, Cavite, shortly before 10 this morning.

President Macapagal told the revolution general that he was greeting him who was not only a former President but a hero of the nation as well.

The 13th U.S. Air Force band from Clark Air Base played in a jassy tune, Happy Birthday, to the general.

Other well wishers who arrived were Mayor German Bat of Kawit, Philippine Navy Commander Jose Ojeda, Hilarion Henares, president of the Home Industries Association of the Philippines, and surviving veterans of the revolution of 1896.

Shortly before 11 a.m. the President and his party motored back to Malacañang where he inducted into office Malcom Sarmiento as acting associate public service commissioner.

Rep Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Miss Alma Sarmiento, daughter of the inductee, and Capt. and Mrs. Benjamin Sarmiento witnessed the oath-taking.

Other callers who conferred with the President were Sen. Ferdinand Marcos and Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevosio.

President Macapagal today received assurance from Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno that raw materials of the U.S. Tobacco Corporation seized by agents of the National Bureau of Investigation would be returned as soon as the inventory being conducted is completed.

Secretary Diokno said that representatives of the U.S. Tobacco Corporation, the Bureau of Internal Revenue, and the National Bureau of Investigation had agreed on the return of the raw materials provided an inventory is first made.

Diokno submitted this information to the President today in view of the concern expressed by the President for the plight of the U.S. Tobacco Corporation workers owing to the stoppage of work in the tobacco firm because of the investigations now going on, in connection with the case filed against Harry Stonehill and Bob Brooks, owners of the firm, now pending before the Deportation Board.

President Macapagal warned this evening he would fight legislators with all his strength if Congress should persist in ignoring his appeal for cooperation to his economic program.

Addressing the 14th awards dinner of the Business Writers Association of the Philippines at the Manila Hotel, the President set forth what he called were his administration's "guidelines to business" and pleaded anew for congressional support to his efforts to step up economic growth and raise the living standards of the people.

In the off-the-cuff portion of his speech, the President assured the businessmen they would enjoy the fruits of the Administration's efforts to return the country to a free economy before his term was over.

He predicted that 1965 would be "the best business year" so far, once the socio-economic program he has outlined had been implemented and the movement toward free enterprise had hit its strides.

Businessmen, he also promised, would no longer need nine lives to survive as in the past, "but only one life," under "the new dispensation." He made this pledge in answer to B.W.A.P. President Carlos Castaneda's speech complaining how difficult it was for businessmen to operate until recently.

The President also announced on the spot:

1. His appointment of Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova as acting secretary of commerce and industry beginning Monday in place of Acting Secretary of Commerce Cornelio Balmaceda who is going abroad shortly.

2. His appointment of "Businessman of the Year 1961" Carlos Fernandez as one of his economic advisers after hearing Fernandez' speech outlining the businessmen's problem and the role they can play in a free economy.

The President said the reason he wanted to push through his economic program even at the cost of fighting Congress was that he was concerned over the welfare of the masses who would not enjoy the fruits of a better life unless such a program could be pushed to completion.

The President bared measures he was planning to adopt to "smooth out the readjustments" local businessmen and industrialists had to make because of the shift from a controlled to a free economy.

The Chief Executive was guest speaker at the annual awards dinner of the Business Writers Association of the Philippines at the Manila Hotel.

**March 23.**—THE Administration's community development program received the support of an International movement this morning.

Dr. Y.C. James Yen, president of the International Mass Education Movement in New York, in the course of a courtesy call on President Macapagal, offered full cooperation to the program.

Cornelio Balmaceda, National Economic Council chairman, accompanied Dr. Yen during his visit at Malacañang.

Dr. Yen, who is at present an adviser for the Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement, said he will get the support of private sectors for President Macapagal's program of community development.

The President was pleased with the support of the international group which, he said, was "very much needed."

Later at the Social Hall, the President was greeted by several delegation. He posed for pictures with some 200 grade school children from Wurthsmith School in Clark Air Base.

The school children, dependents of airmen stationed in the U.S. base, were accompanied by Miss Jean Wollett, Mrs. Araceli Wright, Miss Jean Wagner, Miss Patricia Leslie, Mrs. Joan Brogdon, Mrs. Peggy Burton, Miss Helen Beckwith, Airman 2C Larry Gomoll, and T/Sgt. Charles Mogensey. The school children, together with their teachers, toured the Palace premises.

A delegation of the Philippine Federation of Farmers Extension Clubs, Inc., also came to pledge their support for the President's socio-economic program. The delegation was headed by the federation's president, Galileo D. Sibala.

From Nasugbu, Batangas, the Barrio Lieutenant's League, led by Ex-fiscal Gregorio Panganiban, conferred with President Macapagal on barrio public works improvements, schools, and health centers.

Other callers were former Mayor Felix Amante of Bacolod City, Jose Mapa Gomez, Jacinto Montilla, Undersecretary of Agriculture Esteban Piczon, Juan Bocar, Gregorio Abogado, Separations Commissioner Calixto Zaldivar, Mayor Severa Banusing of San Jose, Antique, and Francisco Perfecto.

The President this morning also received pledges of support and cooperation for the various programs of his administration from Auditor General Pedro Gimenez and members of his staff.

Gimenez and his staff called at Malacañang this morning to pay their respects to President Macapagal. Gimenez informed the President that he and his staff are the Administration's best allies in its socio-economic program and its drive to eliminate graft and corruption.

Starting the clean-up from the top is the most wholesome method of eliminating graft and corruption, Gimenez said. The GAO staff members who called on the President this morning included Deputy Auditor General Jesus Iriarte, CB Auditor Ismael Mathay, Laureano A. Ferrer, Cirilo Miran, Martin Kintanar, Policronio Dimaano, Nestor Agoncillo, Marciano Caballa, Agapito Cabacna, NSDB Auditor Gabriel Salazar, MBR Auditor Eladio Villanueva, Reparations Auditor Nicolas Yabut, ABACORP Auditor Sijenando Paras, NASSCO Auditor Graciano Rapatan, NADECO Auditor Pedro Aguilar, Chief Supervising Auditor Cresencio Custodio, Control and Review Chief Lucido Guinto, and Amable M. Aguiluz.

This afternoon the President put one over Malacañang newsmen at his regular press conference.

The President showed up at exactly 4 p.m. and found out that some of the newsmen were still on their way to the ceremonial hall.

The Chief Executive appeared in high spirits and in good humor. After the press conference, he joined them in a brief cocktail.

I have directed the following officials to undertake, and be responsible for the accomplishment of, the corresponding tasks," said the President as an opening statement at the press conference:

1. Secretary Peralta—to dispose of the Huk problem;
2. Secretary Diokno—to prosecute anti-graft cases;
3. Chairman Feliciano of the Presidential Rice and Corn Committee—to solve the rice crisis problem;
4. Secretary Adevosos—to eradicate smuggling;
5. Commodore Castro of the Philippine Navy—to eradicate dynamite fishing;
6. Col. Garcia, chief of Constabulary—to eradicate cattle rustling, and
7. Director Tiburcio Severo of Forestry—to eradicate kaingin.

The significance of these directives is that the Administration will not be satisfied with routinary tasks. The Administration will not neglect any essential public service but will dedicate particular efforts to the solution of specific problems which are invested with more urgency than other public services.

The officials assigned to their corresponding tasks will be responsible for the effective handling of these problems. Their success or failure in their positions will primarily be judged by their success or failure in their specific assignments.

After his press conference, the President inducted Hermenegildo R. Reyes as acting member of the Board of Regents of the University of the Philippines, vice Jorge B. Vargas, who resigned.

H. R. Reyes, before being named UP regent was president of the UP Alumni Association. He was also the dean of the Institute of Technology of the Far Eastern University.

**March 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today, ordered the formulation of a five-year aviation program geared to the integrated socio-economic program of the Administration.

The President called for a three-pronged aviation plan embracing the government, the military, and commercial sectors at a conference this morning with officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Civil Aeronautics Administration, and the Philippine Air Lines.

During the conference, the President expressed the necessity for (1) spurring economic development through the development of transportation and communication facilities and (2) keeping the Philippines apace with the fast developments in modern aviation.

The President pointed out that the modernization of interisland shipping will take a long period of time to materialize and that during the interim there is a necessity to modernize airport, aircraft, and communications facilities to fill the needs of a rapidly developing economy.

The President also took cognizance of fantastic developments in the field of aviation and said that unless a modern aviation program is undertaken the Philippines would be left far behind the rest of the world in this field.

The President directed that a coordinated study be made on the original five-year, P51 million plan submitted by Civil Aeronautics Administrator Vicente Rivera, Jr., and those submitted by Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, chief of the Philippine Air Force and Col. Rene Barretto of the Philippine Airlines.

Present at the conference which was presided over by the President were Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs Emmanuel Pelaez, Press Secretary and Acting Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanjova, Col. Rene Barretto and Benigno Toda Jr., of the PAL, Eliodoro de la Rosa of the Civil Aeronautics Board, Minister Simeon Roxas of the Department of Foreign Affairs, and Siguion Reyna.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: March 25-31, 1962

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**March 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent a quiet day today. After breakfast with his family, he worked about an hour on state papers.

At 11:30 a.m. the President and members of his family heard mass at the Palace chapel.

At 4:30 p.m. the President boarded the USS Oklahoma City, flagship of "Exercise Tulungan", for Mindoro to have a ringside observation of the final phase of the SEATO war games which will feature the landing of Filipino and American troops on the western coast of the province. The President, was seen off by Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal and their children Diosdado, Jr., and Gloria.

Accompanying the President on board the flagship are Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, Philippine Army Commanding General Alfredo Santos, and Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora.

The President will be back from Exercise Tulungan on Tuesday morning,

**March 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today had a ringside view of the concluding phase of Seato's "Exercise Tulungan" along the western coast of Mindoro.

The President witnessed the exercise with the aid of binoculars and officials in charge of the war games led by Vice-Admiral William Schoech and Major General John P. Condon of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, who kept him informed of the progress of the exercise from the initial amphibious landings of elements of the 1st battalion combat team of the Philippine Army to the vertical envelopment by United States marines through the use of helicopters.

After witnessing the amphibious landings, the President leaped-frog from point to point on board a helicopter to observe the vertical assaults carried by squadrons of marine helicopters along the 55-mile stretch of the exercise.

The President and his party then proceeded to the Troop Exercise Coordination headquarters (TEC) which directs and coordinates the movements of the troops involved, both in the "aggressor force" or guerrilla elements of the exercise and the friendly liberation troops.

While at the TEC, the President had occasion to view the effective techniques and procedures' in the care of war casualties performed by casualty actors displaying almost real wounds in their protruding intestines complete with "bleedings."

From the TEC, the Chief Executive proceeded to San Jose airport to observe troop landings by U.S. Marines from four-engine troop carrier planes from Okinawa.

After having lunch on board the *USS Oklahoma City*, the President inspected the *USS Princeton* and the *USS El Dorado* two other American Navy ships participating in the exercise.

The President arrived at the San Jose beach at 7:40 a.m. by helicopter after spending the night on board 'the USS Oklahoma City, flagship of "Exercise Tulungan" which ferried him and his party from Manila yesterday afternoon.

With him were Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., American Ambassador William E. Stevenson, Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, Philippine Army Commanding General Alfredo Santos, and Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora.

The President and his party are expected to be back in Manila early tomorrow morning aboard the *USS Oklahoma City*.

Malacañang sent to Congress today a bill recommending the creation of an Emergency Employment Administration in order to solve the critical unemployment problem in the country.

President Macapagal signed the letter of transmittal prior to his departure for Mindoro where he observed Exercise Tulungan yesterday. However, the letter and copy of the proposed bill was transmitted only today to Congress.

In his cover letter President Macapagal said, "one of the responsibilities of the state is to provide employment opportunities for its citizens by utilizing every possible means to generate jobs so that they may be gainfully employed."

President Macapagal said that the proposed legislation will immensely ease up the situation, if not fully solve the serious social problems of unemployment and under-employment. V The plan envisions the creation of an Emergency Employment Administration to plan and execute emergency public employment programs within the context of the Administration's five-year integrated socio-economic program.

A proposed budget of P100 million would be set aside to finance this project which will cover conservation and reforestation of forest resources, public works undertakings which promote economic growth; such as, power development, national and communal irrigation, river control, drainage, airport and port construction, improvement of shore protection, construction of highways and feeder roads, large-scale clearance of lands, and establishment of agricultural estates, and others.

The proposed government agency would also be authorized to organize a youth conservation corps to work in conservation and development project throughout the nation.

The proposed agency would also coordinate the different government offices and units performing functions and duties relating to, or in furtherance of, the objectives of the proposed law.

Malacañang this evening announced the appointments of Jose L. Guevara as chairman and Dean Feliciano Joven Ledesma as vice-chairman of the new Board of Review for Moving Pictures.

President Macapagal named 12 members of the 25-man group, which is now the biggest government board. The eleven other members will be appointed soon, according to Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

The chairman, vice-chairman, and twelve members will take their oath of office before Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc in Malacañang at 10 a.m. tomorrow. The new censors will hold their initial luncheon meeting at the Bay View House immediately following their induction.

The new members are Education Undersecretary Miguel Gaffud, Fr. A. S. Bustos, Mrs. Nini Q. Avanceña, Mrs. Luchi S. Lacson, Nick Joaquin, Felix Opimo, Mrs. Consuelo S. Perez, Ramon T. Joven, Ramon Tapales Mrs. Alejandro Antonio, Mrs. Rosalina I. Castro, and Mrs. Luz Mercado.

Guevara, a lawyer and newspaperman, has been a movie censor for the last nine years and vice-chairman of the outgoing Board of Review for Moving Pictures. Ledesma, a lawyer and lay Catholic leader, is the dean of the San Beda College of Commerce.

**March 27.**—THIS morning President Macapagal received Charles Bacon, national commander of the American Legion, at Malacañang.

The visiting AL official informed the President that the American Legion advocates a firm U.S. stand on the Laos question. He added that the Legion feels that if the United States maintains a firm stand not only in Laos but also in



support of other liberty-loving peoples fighting for democracy, it would rekindle the hopes of Asians fighting communism.

Bacon is at present on a tour of Far East AL departments to apprise its members of the stand of the organization on U. S. national security and on anti-communism.

With him during his call were his aide, Robert Hoy; Earl Weaver, Philippine Department commander; Undersecretary Alberto de Joya, past Philippine Department commander; Robert O. Phillips, Ed Berling, Charles Park, Col. Ramon S. I. Sheng, Fr. Thomas Cannon and J. J. de Guzman.

The President also received Dr. Floro V. Dabu, who was accompanied by Dr. Wigberto Clavecilla, chief of the Malacañang Clinic, and Dr. Hermogenes Lorenzo.

The President arrived in Manila at about 7:40 a.m. on board the *USS Oklahoma City*, flagship of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, after witnessing the concluding phases of Exercise *Tulungan* of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization.

Upon his arrival at the Palace, the President issued a statement congratulating Vice-Admiral William Schoech and Brig. Gen. Alfredo Santos, as well as the other officers and men of the United States, the Philippines, and Australia, for the impressive war games which he had the privilege of witnessing.

President Macapagal today issued two proclamations extending the national membership fund drive of the Philippine Cancer Society and the annual fund campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross to April 30 this year.

The extensions were proclaimed by the Chief Executive to give the Philippine Cancer Society more time to meet its membership requirement of P200,000. The Philippine National Red Cross' yearly fund campaign was also given an extension so that it could continue the drive in areas they had failed to cover because of crop failure caused by floods, typhoons, and other major calamities.

The campaign of the PCS and PNRC were originally set by the President to terminate on March 31.

**March 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was swamped this morning with request for assistance in the construction of various public works projects in their respective localities, by a record turn out of congressmen and governors.

Most of the releases requested were for roads, bridges, schools, hospitals, irrigation system, and airports.

Speaker Cornelio Villareal, who had arrived at Malacañang earlier, conferred with the President on some Administration bills.

Other callers were Reps. Jose Cojuangco of Tarlac, Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, Francisco Lecaroz of Marinduque, Simeon M. Valdez of Ilocos Norte, Vincenzo Sagun of Zambanga del Sur, Tobias Fornier of Antique, Joaquin Chipeco of Laguna, Tito Dupaya of Cagayan, Fidel Santiago of Manila, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Virgilio Afable of Zambales, Primo Villasin of Leyte, Justo Albert of Manila, Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, Tereso Dumon of Cebu, Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo, Felicisimo Ocampo of Nueva Ecija, Justiniano Montano of Cavite, Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental, Rufino Antonio of Rizal, and Manuel Cases of La Union; and Govs. Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna and Melanio Singson of Isabela; and Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental.

In the afternoon the President received Dr. Hans-Joerg Klotz and Eberhard Herzog, export director and Far East export manager, respectively, of Daimler-Benz AG.

Dr. Klotz expressed his optimism for the economic future of the Philippines now that it has returned to the free enterprise system.

During the call President Macapagal recalled that in his last visit to Germany, then as Vice-President, he had met Minister Ludwig Erhard, minister of economics of West Germany and father-in-law of Dr. Klotz, with whom he had discussed extensively the many advantages of re-establishing the free enterprise system in a country.

Dr. Klotz was accompanied to Malacañang by Sen. Raul Manglapus and Tony Lee.

The President also received Msgr. Salvatore Siino, papal nuncio, who called to pay his respects.

Other callers included Jacinto Borja, ambassador of the Philippines to the UN, and Sens. Eulogio Balao and Maria Kalaw Katigbak.

This evening President Macapagal said that the Philippines will stand firm with the forces of the Free World on the non-recognition of Red China in the United Nations.

The President made this statement during his conference with Ambassador Jacinto Borja, head of the Philippine Delegation to the United Nations, who reported to the President shortly upon his arrival in Manila.

Ambassador Borja informed the President that the chances of Red China's gaming recognition have dimmed considerably.

The Chief Executive reiterated his instructions to the Philippine delegation to the United Nations that the country will align with the forces of the Free World, particularly on important matters such as this.

**March 29.**—AT breakfast this morning President Macapagal conferred with his economic and financial advisers preparatory to his formulation of tax policies of the Administration.

Present at the conference were Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Press Secretary and concurrently Acting Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Governor Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank, and Assistant Executive Secretary Salvador Marino. Also present were Reps. Gerardo M. Roxas of Capiz and Joaquin R. Roces of Manila.

Following the breakfast conference, the President conferred with Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno, Rep. Justo Albert, and Central Bank Governor Castillo.

In the afternoon the President honored at a merienda some 25 foreign correspondents, mostly from Asian countries, who had come to the Philippines to "cover" Exercise *Tulungan*.

In the evening the President and the First Lady honored members of the Cabinet and their ladies at an informal dinner held at Malacañang.

Invited to the affair were Vice-President and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez, Finance Secretary and Mrs. Fernando E. V. Sison, Public Works Secretary and Mrs. Paulino T. Cases, National Defense Secretary and Mrs. Macario Peralta, Jr., Health Secretary and Mrs. Francisco Duque, Executive Secretary and Mrs. Amelito R. Mutuc, General Services Secretary and Mrs. Duma Sinsuat, Economic Coordination Administrator and Mrs. Cesar Climaco, PCAPE Chairman and Mrs. Eleuterio Adevosio, Press Secretary and Mrs. Rufino G. Hechanova, Assistant Executive Secretary and Mrs. Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., and Assistant Executive Secretary and Mrs. Salvador L. Marino.

This evening President Macapagal said that the Philippines was moving closer and closer towards the ideal of a vibrant democracy.

Meeting with some 25 foreign correspondents who covered the SEATO Exercise *Tulungan*, the President said that the Administration will exert all efforts to implement its program for the moral regeneration and its five-year socio-economic program.

The President also lauded Exercise *Tulungan* as a positive step towards encouraging the increased growth of confidence in the ability of member nations of the SEATO to protect their common security.

Among those present were Rear Admiral Bernard M. Stream, Capt. Lawrence J. Mack, Cmdr. George M. Hall, USMC. Lt. Col. William Duncan, Lt. Cmdr. Thorval Berg, Capt. Edward Clarkson, Capt. Eugene Rankin, and many others.

The President this evening stepped up his drive to weed out unworthy public officials by removing from office a bureau director, a justice of the peace, and a register of deeds. Ordered removed were (1) Aguedo Y. Gepte, director of supply coordination; (2) Valentin Gumiran, justice of the the peace of Sto. Tomas, Isabela; and (3) Francisco M. San Diego, register of deeds of Palawan.

Gepte was found guilty on six counts for gross negligence, incompetence, misconduct in office, and acts prejudicial to the service.

Gumiran, on the other hand, was chained and found guilty of dereliction of duty and sheer official irresponsibility, particularly in connection with his accusations in Criminal Case No. 58 and 102 of the justice of the peace court of Sto. Tomas, Isabela.

San Diego was charged and found guilty of unauthorized pursuit of his profession, inefficiency, incompetence, neglect of duty, and violation of office regulations.

In removing these officials President Macapagal reiterated the norm of conduct governing public officials by stating that "honesty, competence, and devotion to duty are basic requisites for the successful conduct of public affairs."

**March 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today Col. Harry Lambert, chief of the Army section of the Joint United States Military Advisory Group (JUSMAG) to the Philippines.

Mrs. Lambert, Mr. W. R. Etter, and Mrs. Milagros Abella accompanied the JUMAG officer, who also presented to the President, a copy of the U.S. youth corps bill.

Earlier, the President had breakfast with Rep. Jose Alberto, ex-Rep. Francisco Perfecto, Provincial Board Member Nicanor Lopez and Jose Atencia, all of Catanduanes. They discussed with the President problems concerning their province.

After the breakfast President Macapagal met several delegations at the Palace Social Hall, including the Young Liberals led by national Chairman Bart de Castro, a group from Tayug, and a delegation from Morong, Rizal, led by Mrs. Juana Angeles.

After seeing the delegations the President went to the Palace study room where he conferred with Commissioner Gabriel Dunuan, Chairman Jose Suntay of the Board of Liquidators, Ex-Rep. Morante Roque, and Amado Salazar.

The President also administered the oath of office to Mayor Justiniano Borja as acting chairman of the board of directors and concurrently general manager of the Mindanao Development Board. The occasion was witnessed by Mayor Borja's family.

President Macapagal also conferred with Ecuador Consul Ricardo Padilla, who was accompanied by Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

They were followed by Vice-President Pelaez, who came for final instructions before flying to Kuala Lumpur for the ASA foreign ministers' conference.

President Macapagal has accepted President Kennedy's invitation to visit the United States from June 19 to 28, 1962. President Macapagal met President Kennedy when, as Vice-President of the Philippines, he visited the United States in October, 1960.

This visit is in testimony to the special relationship which exists between the United States and the Philippines, and the long-standing friendship of the people of the two countries. It will provide a welcome occasion for the American people to learn more about the leadership of an important democratic partner.

President Macapagal signed today an executive order fixing office hours during the period from April 2 to June 15 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 in the afternoon.

However, the President enjoined heads of departments, bureaus, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the government, including the provincial and municipal governments and all corporations owned or controlled by the government, to require at least one-half of their personnel to be on duty in the afternoon.

President Macapagal today called upon House members to stop their raids of business, establishments in Manila and suburbs.

He told his press conference this afternoon that these "raids were unnecessary" as he reassured Congress that the different police agencies under the executive department could cope with the job of tracking down smuggled goods.

The President virtually upheld Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson in his war against congressional raids in Manila.

At his press conference, the President also:

1. Urged Congress to give priority to his economic development bills;
2. Announced that Sen. Ferdinand Marcos has given up his bid for the Senate presidency to enable the upper chamber to work on pending administration measures;
3. Said he had laid down the foundation for an effective moral regeneration program within 30 days since he assumed the presidency;
4. Promised to solve the long drawn-out question involving 2,700 overstaying Chinese visitors "in one stroke" shortly;
5. Announced the date and duration of his forthcoming state visit to the United States; and
6. Reiterated his stand against calling Congress to a special session this year.

The President opened his press conference by urging Congress to give priority to his administration measures. He listed ten measures which he said were vital to the implementation of his program of government.

The President said Congress has a "limited time to act on these measures."

He said "the people will appreciate the enactment of these measures which will redound to their welfare."

President Macapagal said that, as he expected, the House buckled down to work this week. He expressed elation over the passage on second reading of the bill seeking the creation of the Rice and Corn Administration.

The President declared that he was not planning to call Congress to a special occasion .

**March 31.**—THE President left this morning for the Island of Hermana Mayor, off the Zambales coast, in order to be free for the weekened to act several important state papers.

With the Chief Executive were Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal and their children, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.

Malacañang said the President took with him pending state papers. Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova said the President will shortly announce important decisions which he will formulate during his stay at Hermana Mayor.

Hermana Mayor has been used by the President as his island-hideout. Newsmen who will visit the President tomorrow morning are scheduled to return to Manila aboard two aircrafts, one a small plane and a C-47 from Manila to Iba, Zambales.

The Chief Executive left at 8:00 o'clock this morning. He was scheduled to reach Hermana Mayor at 5:00 o'clock this afternoon.

The President will spend the whole day at the island-hideout and then motor to Baguio Monday morning.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: April 1-7, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**April 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent the whole day today in Hermana Mayor island off the Zambales coast.

He worked on pending state papers to end the backlog which had piled up in Malacañang during the week.

Walking up late in the house of Benigno Toda, Jr., which is situated along the beach facing the China Sea, the President and the First Lady heard mass at a small chapel in the island.

Although the house was owned by the Todas, the President and the First Lady, were the newsmen's hosts at luncheon.

At the dining table, besides the President and the First Lady, were Mr. and Mrs. Toda; Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, chief of the Philippine Air Force; Mike Campos; and the Macapagal children.

After the luncheon, the President again worked on pending state papers.

President Macapagal has approved the promotion of Brig. Gen. Antonio de Veyra, deputy chief of staff, AFP, to two-star general and vice-chief of staff, AFP.

General De Veyra is now No. 2 man in the staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. The post was previously held by Lt. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, now the AFP chief of staff.

The Chief Executive disclosed his approval of De Veyra's promotion at a press conference on Hermana Mayor, his island hideaway, 10 miles off the Zambales west coast.

De Veyra's promotion was recommended by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.

The Administration will abide by the Supreme Court ruling on the midnight appointments.

President Macapagal made this statement in a three-hour informal meeting with Malacañang reporters on the idyllic 500-hectares Hermana Mayor Island on the China Sea.

In one of his longest meetings with reporters, the President answered questions on a wide range of subjects some of which were off the record.

At the conference President Macapagal also said:

1. He approves of Diokno's proposal to have a bill passed banning wiretapping by the government and private persons, unless authorized by a
2. His administration is seriously considering another Diokno proposal to withdraw the administrative supervision of the courts from the justice department and transfer it to the Supreme Court;
3. He believes the present Army retirement law should be amended because under its provisions Army Officers are retired when they are still young and efficient;
4. He believes the appointments of his key appointees will be confirmed by the Commission on Appointments;

5. He is interested in the holding of a convention to update the Constitution as early as possible, and not later than next year;
6. The Administration will submit to Congress a one-year public works program (he has sent a five-year public works program to Congress but decided to reduce the period to give priority to the most urgent projects for the first year);
7. He has created a committee to handle the socio-economic aspect or the Administration's fight against communism;
8. He will propose several pieces of legislation next year designed to bring down the cost of election in the country as a means of strengthening democracy and minimizing corruption; and
9. There is no need to investigate Susano Negado, NAWASA general manager, because the NAWASA is due for reorganization.

The President was also impressed by the suggestion of Brig. Gen. Pedro Molina, air force chief, for the presidential party to use one of the PAL jet planes in his 10-day state visit to the United States starting June 19.

This will give PAL's international flights, to be resumed by the Administration, a big boost.

The presidential family this evening saw a movie, *Passport to China*.

**April 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Baguio City at 6 this evening for a five-day sojourn which he plans to spend in going over a backlog of pending state papers and drafting speeches he will deliver during his state visit in the United States.

Accompanied by the First Lady, President Macapagal left his Hermana Mayor island hideout off the Zambales coast this morning aboard the Philippine Navy destroyer *Rajah Soliman* and landed at Iba town where he boarded a car for the summer capital.

The Macapagal children—Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.—were ferried to Baguio by the Cessna plane of Benigno Toda, Jr., the President's host at Hermana-Mayor.

The President was met by city officials headed by Councilors Jose Florendo and Gaudencio Floresca at the Baguio boundary of the Zig-sag road. He went straight to the Guest House for a much needed respite after a long day of motoring.

President Macapagal woke up late this morning after working far into the night on pending state papers.

The President announced that he will create a bipartisan Council of Leaders to insure the passage of administration measures designed to promote economic development.

The proposed Council of Leaders will be composed of the President, as chairman, and Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, Sen. Fernando Lopez or Sen. Oscar Ledesma, House Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, Sen. Ferdinand Marcos, House Minority Floor Leader Daniel Romauldez, and Sen. Estanislao Fernandez.

The President said he will create the council on his return to Manila and will call it to a conference in Malacañang by Monday, if the Nacionalistas would accept the preferred membership in the body. “

After the Senate shall have been organized, the President said, the Council of Leaders will be reorganized to include the new Senate leaders.

The President said he was prompted to create the council in view of the limited time left of the current regular session of Congress and because of the repeated avowals of members of Congress, including the NPs, to support the Administration's legislative program.

The President emphasized the importance of cooperation and coordination in the enactment of administration measures designed to improve the lives of the people.

Regarding the statement of acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez that there is sufficient ground to support the Philippine claim to North Borneo, the President said that it is Lopez' personal opinion.

The President said he will discuss the matter with Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, Lopez, and a technical staff upon Pelaez' return from the ABA conference in Kuala Lumpur. He said he will formulate the Administration's stand on the question after the technical staff has completed its study and made its recommendations.

**April 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal left unexpectedly for Manila shortly after 1 p.m. following an urgent from Press Secretary Rufino Hechanova, who appraised him of the developments in the tumultuous Commission on Appointment rump session approving the Macapagal appointees.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, left by car presumably to take hand in the widening political rift in the appointments body.

It was believed the President would seek to ease the tension between the Motions in the House about the membership in the Commission.

The Macapagal children, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr., were left behind at the Guest House, as President Macapagal was scheduled to return to Baguio tomorrow evening to address the division school superintendents' convention in the Pines City.

This evening the President fired three justices of the peace and one register of deeds for reason ranging from ignorance of the law, incompetence, grave abuse of authority, and negligence.

Ordered removed from office were:

- (1) Manuel I. Rivera, justice of the peace of Caraga and Manay, Davao, who was fired for ignorance of the law;
- (2) Salvador V. Peralta, justice of the peace of New Washington, Aklan, for' gross incompetence;
- (3) Luis A. Bacasa, justice of the peace of Coron, Palawan, for gross ignorance of the law, incompetence, unethical practice, grave abuse' or authority, illegal detention, and threats; and
4. Alfredo Tad-y, register of deeds of Negros Occidental and Bacolod City, for negligence and violation of the Land Registration Law.

The President made these decisions upon his arrival from Baguio and once again reiterated his concept of public service that men who serve in public offices should conform with the high norm of conduct that he has set for his administration.

The President arrived in Manila at 5:45 p.m., accompanied by Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal.



**April 4.**—UNIVERSITY of the Philippines Alumni board, members led by Regent Hermenegildo R. Reyes called at Malacañang to inform formally the President of his unanimous election as the “most outstanding and distinguished UP alumnus.”

The formal award will be made at the UP annual alumni home-coming on April 14, of which President Macapagal will be the guest of honor.

The President was also invited to be the commencement speaker of the University of the Philippines at Diliman on April 15.

A delegation of Capiz mayors paid a courtesy call on the President. The group was accompanied by Speaker Villareal, Rep. Roxas, and Gov. Atila Balgos.

Govs. Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, Manuel Barret in Zambales, and Gideon Quijano of Misamis Occidental also conferred with President Macapagal on local matters.

This evening the President threw his full support behind the Allied Majority in Congress by submitting the appointments he has made, including those to the Cabinet, to the Allied Majority Commission on Appointments. The President made this bold move after consultations with Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno.

Following the rejection by the Allied Majority Commission of the Garcia appointees President Macapagal submitted for the consideration of the Commission the names of Jacinto Montilla as undersecretary of agriculture, in place of Salvador Cunanan, and George Tan, Jr., as deputy administrator of the Reforestation Administration, in place of Carlos Cunanan.

The President said that the public interest is involved in this controversy between the two groups in Congress and that the public welfare must be protected.

The President upheld at the same time the right of any majority in Congress to “reorganize the various committees.

In nominating Montilla and Tan, the President said he was doing so in pursuance of the provisions of Art. VII, section 10, paragraph (3), of the Constitution, and of existing laws.

This evening the President sent a bill to Congress proposing the establishment of a Moral Commission which shall be charged with the duty of instilling among the people “the real essence of moral values in all areas of national endeavor.

The President pointed out that the unsatisfactory state of public morality which is one of the causes for the present economic difficulties in the country, calls for effective and vigorous measures before it deteriorates further with inculcable damage and harm to the national well-being.

“The apparent indifference which both our official hierarchy and the public had shown towards anomalies and venalities in the public service and the seeming adulation which our people regard ostentatious display of wealth and pompous living, have contributed in large measure to the disquieting state of public morality and existence of rampant graft and corruption in the government service.

“We are thus faced with a gigantic task of bringing about a proper sense of moral values among our people which inquires full resolve and vigorous determination,” the President said in his message to Congress.

The Chief Executive signed the message late this evening before motoring back to Baguio to fulfill a speaking engagement.

The proposed commission which shall be under the office of the President is composed of a chairman and 10 members who shall be appointed from among outstanding and upright leaders in government, religion, education, and the professions. They shall hold office for four years.

President Macapagal motored back to Baguio City late this evening after a 24-hour whirlwind schedule of activities in Malacañang.

During his brief stay in the city, the President:

1. Fired three justices of the peace and a register of deeds for various offenses;
2. Held a series of toplevel caucuses with his political leaders;
3. Recognized the Liberal-Allied Majority-controlled Commission on Appointments; and
4. Submitted his own appointees to the coalition Commission on Appointments to force the issue with the NP's.

President Macapagal returned to Baguio this evening to address tomorrow the annual convention of the Philippine Association of School Superintendents.

He will also be on hand to attend the 15th birthday anniversary of a his daughter, Gloria.

**April 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Baguio shortly after midnight last night in time to address the division superintendent's convention in Teachers' Camp today.

Upon arrival the President worked on his speech until 2 o'clock this morning.

Before proceeding to Teachers' Camp, President Macapagal, accompanied by the, First Lady and children, heard mass in the Pacial Church to celebrate his daughter Gloria's 15th birthday.

The President had breakfast with members of his family and newsmen who asked questions on the Commission on Appointments dispute and the reported end of his political honeymoon with Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson.

President Macapagal answered questions as they came. He insisted that Mayor Lacson was not drifting away from the Administration.

Commenting on the Mayor's sarcastic letters, the President said:

"If you want to put a slant in order to precipitate a fight between me and Lacson, you can call it sarcastic hut you know Lacson has a flair for colorful language.

After addressing the superintendents' convention President Macapagal returned to the Guest House where newsmen were invited to lunch.

The First-Lady entertained the newsmen while the President, who donned a coat and tie for the first time, dressed for the luncheon.

Gloria had a separate luncheon with friends in the Guest House terrace.

Invited guests aside from newsmen, were Mrs. Rosemary Tuason Toda, wife of Benigno Toda, Jr., and Father Jose Baute, who celebrated the early mass for the First Family.

The First Lady guided the newsmen in the Guest House to show innovations she had introduced since the “New Era.”

After luncheon President Macapagal received some superintendents who came to the Mansion House, then retired for his afternoon nap.

President Macapagal announced today, his plan to meet shortly with Education Secretary Alejandro Roces and other education leaders of the country to formulate a program that will revise the country’s educational system to gear it to the vigorous socio-economic development and solve, the aggravating problems of financing the public schools:

The President was the keynote speaker at the opening of the 53rd annual convention of the Philippine Association of School Superintendents this morning held at the Teachers Camp in Baguio City.

“Without prejudice to fuller scrutiny of our school system to which I look forward to doing soon, it is my impression that education should and can be geared to socio-economic development for the good of the country,” the President said.

He explained that this might involve changes of curricula, such as: (1) a more vigorous encouragement of textbooks written by local writers; (2) more systematic and effective emphasis on vocational, agricultural, and trade schools; (3) more attention to science and research; and (4) revision in the training of teachers.

April 6.—PRESIDENT Macapagal did not receive callers today in order to go over pending state papers and rest after a tiring, five hours motor trip from Baguio. The President and his family arrived at past 2 a.m. in Malacañang.

After a late breakfast, the President started working. Then after lunch he decided to take a short nap.

In the afternoon the President left the Palace for a ride around the city before continuing going over important matters.

The President today was reported to have approved a plan changing the peso currency notes in a move to flush out several millions of hoarded capital and insure the return of Philippine money from other countries.

The plan was evolved by the President’s tax advisers, who expressed the belief that Philippine peso have been taken to Hongkong. Some reports said that Philippine money have been taken surreptitiously to the China mainland.

Former Rep. Artemio Lobrin, one of the President’s advisers, said the plan is to flush out hoarded capital which he believes tends to undercut the Administration’s socio-economic program.

Lobrin said the President had asked his tax advisers to study ways and means of implementing the proposal.

The tax advisers believed that the withdrawal of the present currency notes and replacement with new ones will spur the release of hoarded capital from private vaults.

Withdrawal of the present paper money will also help ascertain the money value which have been lost through fire and other calamities.

Replacement of the present currency notes would enable the government to take stock of its monetary obligations.

The proposal sets a six-month period within which to surrender the old currency notes before they are withdrawn as legal tender.

*April 7.*—THE President received today Sir Leslie Munro, secretary general of the International Commission of Jurists, who called at Malacañang to pay his respects to the Chief Executive.

Sir Munro was accompanied by Solicitor General Arturo Alafra. Also with the group were Lady Munro, Angelica Belarmino of the Philippine Lawyers Association, Mrs. Pacita Philips, and Dr. Tomas Barnes.

In their brief exchange of pleasantries and opinion on world affairs, the President expressed faith in the United Nations as an instrument of world peace and justice.

Sir Munro arrived in Manila early this week in the course of his travel in the Far East to study legal developments in the region. He has visited some 15 countries among which were Cambodia, Ceylon, Burma, Vietnam, Thailand, Laos, Pakistan, Malaya, Hongkong, Indonesia, and Iran.

The President then received ECAFE Executive Secretary and Mrs. U Nyun who also paid their respects. They were accompanied by Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim from whom the Chief Executive received a preliminary report on the recently concluded 18th session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East in Tokyo.

Also with the group were Commerce Undersecretary Medina Lacson de Leon and Leonardo M. de la Cruz of the commerce department.

Earlier the President was presented with a cap and medal by a delegation composed of officers and members of the Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Supreme Council who called on him in connection with the observance of the 20th anniversary of the fall of Bataan on Monday.

The group was led by Maj. Gen. Basilio J. Valdez (ret.), chairman of the advisory board; Brig. Gen. Dionisio S. Ojeda (ret.); Brig. Gen. Alfredo M. Santos; Lt Gen. Jesus Vargas (ret.); and Col. Ernesto D. Rufino, national commander.

Also in the group were overseas visitors of the Supreme Council, among whom were Col. & Mrs. J. Rizzolo, Col. & Mrs. R. B. Lewis Major & Mrs. F. L. Ashton and their children, Yvonne and Laird, and Capt. & Mrs. S. A. Schreiner.

Other callers included Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and PRECEP Chairman Eleuterio Adevosio.

In the afternoon the President went over pending state papers.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: April 8-14, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

*April 8.*—PRESIDENT Macapagal's campaign to emphasize the virtue of honesty saw another honest man honored at breakfast in Malacañang today. Honored was Nicolas Quilnet Ragay, a 34-year old driver of the Adminral Taxicab Company, who returned to Sergeant Lorenzo B. Peñera of the Philippine Air Force a portfolio containing P5,020 in cash representing the soldier's 20-year savings and other important papers which the latter left in the back seat of Ragay's taxicab.

This was the third time that the Chief Executive paid tribute to men who preferred to stay honest instead of enjoying ephemeral happiness by appropriating for themselves somebody else's property.

The President commended Ragay for his honesty. He advised him to keep it up that he may serve as a model for his fellow-drivers. The Chief Executive also offered his help to Ragay anytime he may need assistance in any way.

Ragay arrived at Malacañang with his wife Asuncion and daughter, Erlinda. He has three children but the two elder ones, Renato, 11, and Cesar, 9, are currently vacationing in their native town of Siato, Negros Oriental.

The Ragays' were fetched from, and returned to their home by a Malacañang car.

During the breakfast Ragay recalled that last March 23, two men boarded his taxicab on San Fernando Street for Pier 6. In their hurry to board an inter-island boat upon their arrival at the pier, the PAF sergeants forgot his portfolio.

Ragay said that he did not notice the portfolio until two women passengers who boarded his cab several minutes later handed it over to him.

In examining the portfolio, Ragay said, he found P5,020 in cash, a passenger ticket, two bank deposit books, two sweepstakes tickets, and PAF service records. He said he turned them over to their company cashier who in turn gave them to their manager, Cipriano Cifra, who had a news item about the "find" published in a metropolitan daily.

In his talk with the President, Ragay said his conscience would not allow him to take things not belonging to him.

According to him, this was the third time during his 15 years of driving taxicabs that he had found and returned things left behind by his passengers.

The first time, he said, was in 1949 when he found bundles containing dollar bills in his cab. Several years later, he again found an expensive camera in his cab. In both instances, he said, he returned them to their owners.

President Macapagal expressed hope that the spirit which spurred Filipino soldiers to risk their lives in the battlefields of World War II would continue to inspire the people as they exert efforts in the "great task of nation-building.

In a message issued on the occasion of the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the fall of Bataan today, the President said:

"On this historic and significant event, I wish to join my fellow countrymen in recalling the noble sacrifices and splendid gallantry of those men—living and dead—who fought for the cause of justice, liberty, and democracy."

He called upon the people to continue working with the Administration "in the quest for a better life for each and every Filipino citizen."

**April 9.**—AT 7:30 o'clock this morning President and Mrs. Macapagal motored to Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, to address the graduating class of the Central Luzon Agricultural College.

The President was expected to arrive in that town at 9:30 a.m., but an accident marred his trip along the way and delayed his schedule. Injured were eight soldiers of the Presidential Guards Battalion, two seriously. The President, upon arrival, rested at the cottage of the CLAC president. President Macapagal underscored in his commencement address the importance of scientific farming in the successful implementation of the five-year socio-economic program of the Administration.

Switching from English to Tagalog in his 25-minute address, the President received ten ovations from a big crowd that attended the commencement exercises of the Central Luzon Agricultural College in Muñoz.

The President received the longest applause when, touched by the sight of old men and women who had come to witness the graduation of their children, the President recalled in a choking voice the similar sacrifices which his parents underwent in order that he, too, could get an education.

The President also received a big hand when he told the crowd that this was the first invitation to a commencement exercise which he had accepted. "I accepted this," the President said, "to give emphasis to my concern for the growth of agricultural productivity as a requisite to industrial growth."

The President assured the crowd at the CLAC compound that "as long as they are willing to undergo sacrifices for the education and welfare of their children, there is no reason to fear for the future of the Philippines." The President also reiterated his determination to overcome all obstacles so that during his tenure of office he will be able to bring about a new era of hope, contentment, and happiness to the entire Filipino people.

The President enumerated in his speech the measures which he would undertake to attain his goal.

The President was virtually mobbed by a large group of admiring women and children who wanted to shake his hand as he descended the rostrum to board his car after his speech.

Some 383 students received their diplomas during the ceremonies, which also marked the inauguration of Dr. Hilario J. Santos as president of the College.

Also present at the ceremonies were Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal, who accompanied the President; Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, who installed the new president; Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova; Bishop Mariano A. Madriaga of Lingayen, who delivered the invocation and benediction; Dr. Benigno Aldana, director of public schools, who presented Dr. Santos to the college; Gov. Eduardo Joson; Rep. Felicisimo Ocampo; Nick Enciso, president of the CLAC Alumni Association; and many others.

After luncheon at the college auditorium, the First Lady inaugurated the administration building, after which the President conferred briefly with college officials. They left for Malacañang at 2:30 p.m., arriving shortly before 6 p.m.

In the face of complaints aired by Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson against raids of various governmental agencies in the city of Manila, President Macapagal this evening convoked a conference among DND Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Acting Customs Commissioner Cesar C. Climaco, PAGCOM Chief Abelardo Subido, and Juan Cancio of the Malacañang legal division. The conference will be held to thresh out the complaints of Mayor Lacson and to insure the following:

(a) That the raids are in accordance with law;

(b) That there should be no violation of civil liberties; and

(c) That there should be no extortion or “tong” collection whatever. This evening the President reiterated that he will not tolerate any violation of civil liberties nor graft at any levels of the government.

This evening the President Reiterated, that he will not tolerate any viola-Court by appointing Ambassador Roberto Regala and Hon. Querube C. Makalintal as associate justices of the Supreme Court.

Regala, an eminent lawyer and a career diplomat in: the Philippine foreign service, will take the place of Associate Justice Felipe Natividad, while Makalintal will take the place of Associate Justice Dionisio de Leon.

Justice De Leon reached the mandatory retirement age of 70 on April 8, this year.

Regala was, until his appointment to the Supreme Court, Philippine envoy to Rome. He was judge of the court of first instance before the war.

Makalintal, on the other hand, was presiding justice of the Court of Appeals, and the senior among the appellate justices.

**April 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received this noon from Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez a report on the Association of Southeast Asia foreign ministers’ conference in Kuala Lumpur.

Pelaez reported that the ASA is geared to assist member states in accelerating their economic programs.

The President congratulated Pelaez for the success of his mission and reiterated his support for the ASA. “I hope that the ASA will grow in strength and increase in membership,” President Macapagal said.

Earlier the President met Nacionalista mayors of the first district of Samar who came to pledge their support for the President’s administration and to present the problems and needs of their respective municipalities.

The delegation of 27 mayors, vice-mayors, and councilors was led by Rep. Eladio Balite and Provincial Board Member Jacinto Tobes.

At breakfast the President conferred with Samar officials on party matters. Present at the conference were Rep. Eladio Balite, Rep. Felipe Abrigo, Esteban Peczon, Gregorio Abogado, Marciano Lim, Valeriano Yan-cha, Juan Bocar, Gabriel de Guia, and Board Member Tobes.

The breakfast was followed by a conference with several congressmen on the Administration’s emergency employment bill.

Among the congressmen present were Reps. Justiano Montano, Felicishno Ocampo, Gerardo Roxas, Jovito Salonga, Luciano Joson, Pablo Sanidad, Pedro Trono, Justo Albert, Primo Villasin, Rufino Antonio, Ramon Tabiana, and Simeon Valdez.

Other callers were National Press Club President Macario T. Vicencio, Malabon Mayor Lucio Gutierrez, BIR Commissioner Benedicto Padilla, and Agriculture Undersecretary Jacinto Montilla.

In the afternoon the President received the credentials of Ambassador Zaiton Ibrahim Bin Ahmad of the Federation of Malaya in a ceremony held at the ceremonial hall of Malacañang.

Those present were Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs Pelaez, Executive Secretary Amelio Mutuc, Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda of the National Economic Council, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Acting Public Works Secretary Paulino Cases, Agriculture Secretary

Benjamin Gozon, General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary S. P. Lopez, Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevos, and Ministers Manuel Zamora, Pedro Aragon, Simeon Roxas, and Anastacio Bartolome.

Then the President attended the meeting of a committee he created recently to promote the socio-economic upliftment of Huk-infested regions in the country. The meeting was held in Malacañang.

With Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., as chairman, the committee is composed of Public Works Secretary Paulino T. Cases, Health Secretary Francisco Q. Duque, Social Welfare Administrator Tecla Ziga, and Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., who is concurrently presidential assistant on community development.

Other afternoon callers included Ambassador Alfred Stirling of Australia, who came to pay his respects.

This evening the President conferred with heads of various government investigative agencies to look into the complaints aired by Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson against raids being made in Manila.

After the conference the President ordered that all raids to be conducted in Manila should have the prior approval of the department head concerned, and that the Manila Police Department should be duly notified of such raids.

During the conference it was revealed that all raids conducted by the Philippine Constabulary under Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., the Customs under Commissioner Cesar C. Climaco, and the PAGCOM under Abelardo Subido were properly accomplished and that the Manila Police Department were duly notified of such raids.

The President emphasized the need for the various investigating agencies to conduct themselves in such manner that they would not expose the Administration to criticism and spoil the good record of the Administration by tolerating acts of impropriety on the part of the raiders.

Present at the conference were Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Customs Commissioner Cesar C. Climaco, PAGCOM chief Abelardo Subido, Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., Juan Cancio of the Malacañang Legal Division, and Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

President Macapagal proclaimed the period from May 6 to 12 this year as National 4-H Club Week, Malacañang announced today.

In his proclamation the President called upon the people to turn their thoughts during the week to the great service the youth organization is doing for the country, both economically and socially, and to extend their cooperation and support to the movement.

The 4-H Club is an organization of more than 120,000 young boys and girls from the rural areas who “pledge their heads to dearer thinking, their hearts to greater loyalty, their hands to larger service, and their health to better living for their club, community, and country.”

The President commended the organization for being “one of the major forces in improving the standard of living in the rural areas” and for developing young boys and girls into useful young citizens and future leaders.

The Chief Executive designated the Bureau of Agricultural Extension to take charge of all activities in celebration of the week.

**April 11.**—THIS morning President Macapagal was informed of the organization of the Tabacalera Industrial Development Corporation of the Philippines which will participate in the development of industrial projects in the country on a 60-40 Filipino-foreign capital basis.



The information was given by Fernando Gari and Francisco Cantarell, visiting executive director of Tabacalera-Barcelona, who called at Malacañang this morning to pay their respects following their recent arrival in Manila.

They were accompanied during their call on the President by Ramon Barata, general manager of Tabacalera-Philippines; Board Chairman Silvestre Punzalan of the Philippine National Bank; Aurelio Montinola, Sr., and Aurelio Montinola, Jr.; and Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

Earlier this morning the President had a breakfast conference with General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat and Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun.

Then he received Sen. Eulogio Balao with whom he conferred for a few minutes.

The Chief Executive received numerous callers this morning composed mostly of congressmen, and provincial and city officials who consulted him on pressing problems of their respective localities.

Among the callers were Reps. Ramon Durano and Jose Briones of Cebu, Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Godofredo Ramos of Aklan, Pablo Sanidad of Ilocos Sur, Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur, Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte, Primo Villasin of Leyte, and Juanito Nepomuceno of Pampanga; Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal; Iligan City Mayor Camilo Cabili, with Treasurer Ariel Tuazon; ex-Rep. Ignacio Meliton; and Rev. Julito Tungol.

In the afternoon President Macapagal administered the oaths of affiliation as members of the Liberal Party to 17 mayors, two vice-mayors, and six councilors of the first district of Samar in a ceremony held at the residence in San Juan, Rizal, of Sen. Ferdinand Marcos, LP president.

The first district of Samar is composed of 18 municipalities and Calbayog City.

Rep. Eladio T. Balite sponsored the new Liberals; namely, Mayors Max Manook of Allen, Pio Marida of Bobon, Proculo Magloyoan of Capul, Leon Turbanada of Catubig, Rafael Gomba of Gamay, Eomulo Giray of Laoang, Lorenzo Manzon of Lapinig, Ases Jolejole of Las Navas, Basilio Chan of Lavezares, Filemon Pahimnayon of Mondragon, Juan Gorgonia of Palapag; Ramon Siervo of Pambujan, Ricardo Palacio of San Antonio, Melanio Olano of San Isidro, Agustin Pondemira of San Jose, Diego Merino of San Roque, and Cipriano Roma of Santa Margarita; Calbayog City Councilors Francisco Ladrero, Apolinar Alorro, and Avelino Basco; Vice-Mayors: Mariano Sagadal of Calbayog City and Leovigildo Delorino of Catarman; Councilors Julio Sevilla, Graciano Camposano, and Hermogenes Gilbuela of Catarman.

Health Undersecretary Rodolfo Cafios accompanied Judge Isidro Ordaneza, NP chairman, and Councilor Dr. Antonio Villanueva, both of Padada, Davao, who were also inducted by President Macapagal as new members of the Liberal Party.

Present were Sens. Francisco Rodrigo, Ambrosio Padilla, Mariano J. Cuenco, Manuel Manahan, Rogelio de la Rosa, Estanislao Fernandez, Raul Manglapus, Camilo Osias, Gaudencio Antonino, and Maria Kalaw-Katigbak; and Reps. Justiniano S. Montano, Salipada Pendatun, Manuel Cases, and Reynaldo Honrado.

The President received from Jose Galza and Norbert Wireching, outgoing and incoming president, respectively, of the Philippine Society of Tool and Manufacturing Engineers, a certificate as honorary president of the society.

**April 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had a breakfast conference with 27 congressmen at Malacañang this morning on the legislative program of the Administration.

Present at the conference were Reps. Lucas Paredes of Abra, Godofredo P. Ramos of Aklan, Justino Nuyda of Albay, Tobias Fornier of Antique, Tito M. Dupaya of Cagayan, Jose M. Alberto of Catanduanes, Justiniano S. Montano of Cavite, Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, Ramon M. Durano of Cebu, Manuel A. Zosa and Tereso Dumon

also of Cebu, Pedro G. Trono and Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo, Joaquin E. Chipeco of Laguna, Dominador M. Tan of Leyte del Norte, Joaquin R. Roces of Manila, Francisco M. Lecaros of Marinduque, Alfredo G. Lamen and Luis Hora of Mountain Province, Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Salvador R. Encinas of Sorsogon, Salih Ututalum of Sulu, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao del Norte, Jose Cojuangco, Jr., of Tarlac, Virgilio L. Afable of Zambales, and Alberto Q. Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte.

Following the breakfast the President had another conference with Governor Andres Castillo of the Central Bank, Chairman Silvestre Punzalan of the PNB board of directors, PNB President Bienvenido Dizon, and Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

The President received callers up to 12:30 p.m.

Among the last callers were Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez with whom the President discussed the forthcoming international labor convention in Geneva, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, and Sen. Estanislao Fernandez.

The President had lunch with Rufino Gardinal Santos, and Msgrs. Manuel del Rosario and Benjamin Marino,

In the evening the President had a number of business executives and their ladies for dinner guests. Invited to the affair were Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Elizalde, Sr., Federico Elizalde, Mr. and Mrs. Aurelio Montinola, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Andres Soriano, Jr., Rep. and Mrs. Ramon Bagatsing, Eduardo Yrezabal, Benigno Toda, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Wilkinson. ; This evening the President conferred with Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison and expressed satisfaction over increases in Customs and BIR collections for the period covering January to March, 1962.

The President was gratified to note that BIR collections during this period amounted to P140,299,266.78 as against P130,218,921.39 for the same period last year, a net increase in BIR collections of P10,080,345.39, increasing roughly by 7.7 per cent.

Customs collections from January to March, excluding interfund transactions, totalled P89,776,328.21 as against P84,041,456.22 for the same period last year, representing approximately seven per cent increase in collections over the same period as those of last year.

President Macapagal expressed the belief that with a more intensified effort, greater efficiency, and the honesty on the part of the collecting agencies, the BIR and Customs will further increase collections in the coming months.

Secretary Sison pledged that his department would intensify its efforts and that he would exercise closer supervision to prevent the repetition of past anomalies committed by certain unscrupulous persons in the BIR and at the Customs.

In an impromptu talk with newspapermen this evening President Macapagal said that he was studying the suggestion of Nacionalista leaders that in the proposed bipartisan Council the Nacionalistas would name their own representatives.

The President said that he had asked Sen. Ferdinand Marcos and Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal to study the matter preparatory to formalizing the formation of the Council and to appointing officially the members.

This is something unusual since in the past advisory councils, including the Council of State, former Presidents selected the membership.

**April 13.**—AT a breakfast conference today Abra political leaders consulted President Macapagal on pressing problems of their province.

The President's guests were Rep. Lucas Paredes, Gov. Jose Valera, Social Security System Commissioner Vene Pe Benito, and Mrs. Soledad Montalbo.

Following the conference which was held at the family dining room of Malacañang, the President went down to the social hall where he received a delegation composed of officers of the Barrio Lieutenants' League headed by its president, Virgilio Hilario.

The delegation informed the President of a campaign launched by their league to increase production in cooperation of the Administration's socioeconomic program.

According to Hilario, who acted as spokesman for the group, the drive would; be undertaken in three phases: (1) increase of agricultural production by the use of scientific methods; (2) conservation of natural resources such as fish and forests; and (3) establishment of marketing cooperatives.

Also with the group were J. P. Roxas, chairman of the league's board of advisers; Val Santos, national coordinator; Genaro Lapuz, vice-president for the Visayas; and Andres Cosalan, coordinator for Mountain Province.

Other delegations included those from La Union headed by Gov. Eulogio de Guzman and from Isabela headed by Gov. Melanio Singson.

Among those in the La Union group were Vice-Gov. Pedro Peralta-Board Members Francisco Gortina, Diomedes Bautista, and Calixto Mendoza; and Mayors Faustina Madriago of Rosorio, Moises Dulay of Aringay, Delfin Florendo of Bauang, Vicente Concepcion of Bulaoan, Augusto Zambrano of Luna and Joel Remado of Naguilian.

Shortly before 12 noon, the President repaired to his study where he had separate conference with Ambassador to the United Nations Jacinto Borja and Chairman Juan Salcedo of the National Science Development Board,

In the afternoon the President presided over his regular weekly press conference.

Then he met with his committee charged with undertaking studies to improve the living conditions in Huk-infested localities, in connection with the President's socio-economic program.

The committee is composed of Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Public Works Secretary Paulino T. Cases, Health Secretary Francisco Duque, Social Welfare Administrator Tecla San Andres-Ziga, and Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, concurrently presidential assistant for community development.

In the evening the President had as guests in an informal dinner Mr. and Mrs. Alfonso Calalang, Mr. & Mrs. Pio Pedrosa, Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Marquez, PNB President & Mrs. Bienvenido Dizon, PNB Chairman & Mrs. Silvestre Punzalan, DBP Chairman & Mrs. Pablo Lorenzo, Gov. & Mrs. Andres Castillo, Secretary & Mrs. Rufino G. Hechanova, Secretary & Mrs. Fernando E. V. Sison, NEC Chairman & Mrs. Cornelio Balmaceda, and Mr. & Mrs. Bernardino Ronquillo.

**April 14.**—THIS morning President Macapagal averted the resignation of Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez from the Cabinet.

The President called members of the Allied Majority in the House and his Cabinet officials to a reconciliation conference in Malacañang this morning in a move to nip the rift between the Vice-President and the AM.

Pelaez's resignation was triggered off by the P1.5 million slash wrought by the House appropriation committee on the foreign office budget.

During the meeting the President prevailed upon Pelaez to stay in the Cabinet, and the AM in the House, to use the safety valve built in the House-approved P1.4 billion budget to restore cuts made in the Padre Faura budget.

Pelaez offered without “rancour nor personal grudge” his position as secretary of foreign affairs back to President Macapagal during the conference.

In stressing the need for closer cooperation between the AM members and his Cabinet, the President said that “regardless of political affiliations and geographical representation, we are partners in the task of nation-building and to this end we must work to fulfill the expectations of our people.”

When President Macapagal indicated at the Palace meet that he was upholding Pelaez, AM leaders said a way was open to have the FAO slashes restored in the House and thus mollify the Vice-President.

The AM moguls pointed out that in the omnibus amendment to the P1.4 billion outlay, the House authorized the appropriations committee to make “adjustments” in the budget before sending it to the Senate.

Thus, restorations of the gl.5 million pared from the Padre Faura outlay would be made by the appropriations committee and satisfy Pelaez’ stand-on the restoration of the “cuts” by the House.

President Macapagal stressed at the breakfast conference with members of the Allied Majority in the Lower House of Congress and members of his Cabinet the need for closer cooperation in order to achieve the Administration’s goal of providing a better life for the masses.

The President said that “regardless of political affiliations and geographical representation, we are partners in the task of nation-building ‘and to this end we must work to fulfill the expectations of our people.’”

The President took occasion to laud again the Nationalists members of the Lower House who joined in coalition with the Liberals, to form the Allied Majority which has been responsible for pushing through in the Lower House the major legislation necessary for the implementation of the socio-economic program of the Administration.

The President reiterated his belief that Congress will pass the major legislation of the Administration that he would need, citing the work of the Lower House during the last few days in passing the Emergency Employment Administration and the budget.

Those present at the conference were: Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez, Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno, Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, Acting Public Works Secretary Paulino Cases, Education Secretary Alejandro Roces, Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Jr., Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Health Secretary Francisco Duque, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc, General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Economic Coordination Administrator Cesar Climaco, Press Secretary Rufmo G. Hechanova, Presidential-Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevosio, NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Social Welfare Administrator Tecla San Andres-Ziga, DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, NSDB Chairman Juan Salcedo, Jr., and Chairman Ignacio Santos Diaz;

Speaker Cornelio Villareal and Reps. Lucas Paredes, Godofredo P. Ramos, Justino Nuyda, Tobias Fornier, Tito M. Dupaya, Jose M. Alberto, Justinano Montano, Salipada K. Pendatun, Ramon M. Durano, Manuel A. Zosa, Tereso Dumon, Pedro G. Trono, Ricardo Y. Ladrido, Joaquin E. Chipeco, Dominador M. Tan, Joaquin R. Roces, Francisco Lecaroz, Alfredo G. Lamen, Luis Hora, Eladio Balite, Felipe Abrigo, Salvador R. Encinas, Salih Ututalum, Jose Cojuangco, Jr., Virgilio L. Afable, Alberto Q. Ubay, and Reynaldo P. Honrado.

President Macapagal this evening pledged his administration to defend the cause of academic freedom but warned that its misuse “will lead to the degeneration of the national character or to the destruction of the democratic and free way of life.”

He made the pledge in a brief speech at the annual alumni homecoming of the University of the Philippines at the UP campus in Diliman, Quezon City.

The President addressed the UP Alumni Association which voted him as the “most distinguished alumnus” this year. He received an award from the association.

“I believe that academic freedom,” the President stated, “should be used to advance the avowed cause of the University of the Philippines, which is to provide advanced instruction in literature, philosophy, the sciences and arts, and to give professional and technical training.”

He cautioned, however, against the use of this freedom to “promote ideas which are not in consonance with the moral regeneration in which our nation is engaged. This administration is exerting its utmost to inculcate moral virtues among our people.”

The President said “our efforts would go to naught and it would be quite ironic if the state university, which is supported by the taxes of the people, should fail in the common duty of inculcating morality among our people and should instead disseminate ideas or theories which will result in the moral decadence of our society.”

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: April 15-21, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

*April 15.*—THIS afternoon the President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to the University of the Philippines to address the UP graduation exercises. ”

Upon his arrival at the UP campus, the President donned his cap and gown and joined the procession of the graduates to the stage.

At the graduation rites the President was awarded a gold medal of merit and diploma of honor for having been named as “the most outstanding and distinguished U.P. alumnus of the year.”

The gold medal was pinned on the President's hood by Mrs. Macapagal, assisted by U.P. President Vicente G. Sinco.

Dean H. R. Reyes, president of the U.P. Alumni Association, read the citation honoring the President while Education Secretary Alejandro Roces presented the medal and the diploma. The President graduated with an A.A. degree from the State University in 1933. He holds the following degrees: Ll. R, Ll. M., Ll. D., and Ph. D.

In his commencement address President Macapagal called for national discipline which he said was necessary to give substance to the country's economic development.

“For here I would like to affirm with all the force at my command,” the President told the graduating class of the University of the Philippines, “that the most massive programs of economic development shall profit us nothing, and nothing shall be added unto our nation, unless by a change of heart and by the transformation of our spirit we are able, once again, to accept individual discipline, the norms of order of society, and respect for authority as the fundamental principles by which we live.”

President Macapagal stressed that as President of the Republic, he has set two major goals for his administration.

“One is to push our country forward on the road toward accelerated economic and social progress, and the other, to help bring about the moral regeneration of our people.”

The President pointed out that he does not accept as an “explanation or justification” for the present moral degeneration “that it is the inevitable result of the sharpening struggle for existence in our society. No society, anywhere, regardless of tradition or ideology, is exempt from such struggle in one form or another.”

President Macapagal, shocked by Mayor Lacson's death, this evening prepared to visit the remains of his campaign manager in the last presidential elections.

The President abandoned plans of visiting the mayor's remains when he was informed that the body was still being dressed.

He is scheduled to view the remains early tomorrow morning.

President Macapagal, however, issued a statement extolling Mayor Lacson's life.

The President was informed of the mayor's death upon his return to Malacañang from the University of the Philippines.

President Macapagal issued the following statement this evening on the death of Mayor Lacson:

“The nation will miss Arsenio H. Lacson. My administration will miss him. He was the national sentinel of the public morality.

“As an individual, I grieve over his death because he was a personal friend. As President, I mourn his demise because he was a loyal friend of the people.

“He did not live or die in vain. In my administration which he helped to bring about, his uncompromising crusade for clean government will continue to cast its influence as effectively as if he were still alive.”

**April 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal administered the oath of office to Vice-Mayor Antonio Villegas as mayor of Manila, vice Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, deceased, in a ceremony held at Malacañang at 7:30 a.m. today.

Present at the induction of the youngest Manila mayor were his wife, the former Lydia Alano; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Epifanio Villegas; Labor Undersecretary Bernardino Abes; and ranking officials of Manila.

The President this morning also inducted provincial officials of Romblon. They were Dr. Levi Romero as vice-governor and Nemesio Ganan as senior board member.

Romero was senior board member before his appointment as vice-governor, while Ganan was regional legal officer of the Department of Health.

Following the inductions the President repaired to his private study where he spent some time going over pending state papers.

About 10 a.m. the President motored to the Our Lady of Loreto Church in Sampaloc to view the remains of Mayor Lacson. Accompanied by Mrs. Macapagal, the President also heard requiem high mass sung in memory of the late city executive.

Also in the church were Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc, Sen. Estagnislao Fernandez, Mayor Antonio Villegas, Vice Gov. Benigno Aquino, Jr., of Tarlac, and ranking city officials of Manila,

After the mass the First Couple proceeded to the residence of Mayor Lacson on Earnshaw Street. They were accompanied by Mayor Villegas. Finding that Mrs. Lacson was not as yet in a position to receive visitors, the president and the First Lady returned to Malacañang.

The President and members of his family had lunch with Jorge Villa, 29-year old baggage carrier at the Manila International Airport, who returned to its owner a ready-to-cash check for, P5,792.68. Villa was the fifth honest man honored at Malacañang in connection with the President's desire to emphasize the virtue of honesty.

In the evening the President delivered his first of a series of radio-TV chats with the nation, which was broadcast on a nation-wide hookup by remote control from the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

Entitled, “Macapagal Speaks to the People,” the President's radio-TV message was a report of his first 30 days in office as head of the Republic.

President Macapagal proclaimed today a period of national mourning owing to the death of Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson of Manila.

During the period which starts today until the internment of the late mayor, the Philippine flag will be flown at half-mast in all government buildings and installations.

Mayor Lacson was a former member of Congress, a resistance movement leader, and incumbent chairman of the league of governors and city mayors.

**April 17.**— BEFORE leaving Malacañang this morning, the President' worked on pending state papers. He did not schedule callers.

The President also received messages of condolences which were sent to the Palace from friends and admirers of the late city mayor.

Among those who sent messages to Malacañang were Alvin J. Jarvis, region 1 director, Far East Boeing International Corporation, and Karl Bachmeyer.

The President left unexpectedly this afternoon for Lubao, Pampanga, his hometown, and returned before sundown. The Chief Executive was accompanied by the First Lady and their children.

Malacañang said the President took part in his hometown's Holy Week rites.

The President was scheduled originally to fly to Iligan City to begin the Holy Week in his farm in Lanao del Norte. However, the sudden demise of his Nacionalista friend and campaign manager, Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, prompted a change in his plans.

The President returned shortly before six o'clock this evening to be on hand at the funeral of Mayor Lacson tomorrow.

It was learned the President greeted his friends and relatives in Lubao and went around the town.

President Macapagal proclaimed Saturday, April 21, this year as a special public holiday, it was announced by Malacañang today.

The President, in his proclamation, pointed out that since Holy Thursday and Good Friday, April 19 and 20, respectively, are public holidays, Saturday, April 21, may be declared a special public holiday without any prejudice to the public interest.

**April 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal this morning summoned Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Customs Commissioner Cesar C. Climaco, Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., and Teodorico Patag, management representative in Customs, to a conference to tackle the problems in Customs once and for all.

The President expressed the view that the tong system and all other forms of graft at Customs must be eliminated and that the flow of incoming and outgoing goods must be smooth.

The President said that the Customs should be cleaned of all undesirable elements and at the same time insure the smooth flow of goods to stimulate business activities, thus insuring the success of the Administration's five-year socio-economic program.

Among the measures agreed upon during the coherence were (1) implementation of systematic procedures along the lines recommended by the management study group and (2) strengthening of the investigative and prosecuting agencies with a view to expediting the prosecution of grafters and mulcters.

The President stressed the important role that Customs plays in the implementation of the socio-economic program of the Administration. He also stressed the fact that businessmen must be allowed to bring in their goods which are needed by the people with the minimum of red tape and without being subjected to undue harassment.



However, the President said that we must also insure the efficient collection of duties and levies. The President ordered studies to be made along the lines indicated and said he would call another conference next week with the view to formulating: an overall plan to achieve these goals.

President Macapagal, breaking tradition and protocol, attended this noon the funeral of Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson.

Together with the First Lady, the President at 10:20 a.m. left for the City Hall where he joined the funeral procession. The presidential car followed the Mayor's car occupied by the Mayor's children and relatives.

When the hearse arrived at the North Cemetery, the people rushed in for a last glimpse of the "best Mayor Manila ever had."

Assisted by Mayor Antonio Villegas and other city officials, President Macapagal sealed the crypt.

Then the wreath given by the President and the First Lady was placed before the sealed tomb. After condoling with the Mayor's children and close relatives, the First Couple returned to Malacañang.

At about 1:30 p.m. the President left for Iligan City. With him were the First Lady and their children, Arthur, Gloria, and Diosdado Jr.

**April 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent his second day in the 35-hectare farm of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irinea Vda. De Maracaeg, in Iligan City fronting the scenic Iligan Bay some eight kilometers from the city.

He arrived in the Macaraeg farm this afternoon with the First Lady and children—Arturo, Gloria, and Junior.

He woke up late and after breakfast with members of the Macaraeg family went over pending state papers he took with him in his Mindanao hide-away.

At noontime the President and the First Lady received Malacañang newsmen as luncheon guests. The Chief Executive commented on problems confronting his administration and how he had pulled the country from economic difficulties by boosting the dollar reserves from less than P100 million when he took over to some P200 million at present.

After luncheon the President read Manila papers.

**April 20.**—EARLY today President Macapagal summoned Press Secretary Rufino Hechanova and Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., to brief him tomorrow on the progress made on efforts to organize a bipartisan Council of Leaders and on other problems. The President spent Good Friday in deep meditation at the seaside villa of his mother-in-law in sitio Timoga, Iligan City.

There were no callers in the morning, as the President was reported in deep meditation going over passages in the Bible and the Passion of Christ.

In the afternoon the President, accompanied by the First Lady and the Macapagal children, motored to the nearby Saint Micheal church for the Seven Last Words rites.

They are expected back in Manila either on Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning.

**April 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today had a breakfast conference with officials of Lanao del Norte and Iligan City on local matters at the seashore residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irinea Macaraeg, in Timoga, Boroon, Iligan City.

During the conference which lasted for more than one hour, the provincial and city officials consulted him on problems of their locality.

Among those who conferred with the President were Iligan City Mayor Camilo Cabili, Lanao del Norte Acting Gov. Arsenio Quibranza, Provincial Board Member Felixberto Amelloroza, ex-Gov. Valerio, Robira, and City Councilors Jose Deleste, Erlito Echiverri, Francisco Obach, and Benito Ong.

President Macapagal later had informal talks with Manila newsmen covering him.

Then the Chief Executive closeted himself in his private room and went over some state papers he took along with him in the trip. He did not receive any other visitors for the day,

Immediately after the breakfast, which, started at 8:15, the President led his guests to the porch overlooking Timloga Spring separated only by wire fence, guava, star apple trees, and white butterfly orchids, the First Lady's favorite flower.

Mayor Cabili told the President about the opposition of Iligan City residents to the proposed hike in national power rates. Cabili said it would: discourage capitalists from investing funds in the power industry.

The help of the President was also sought in connection with the city planting needs. It was pointed out that the city planning board headed by Sergio Bayan cannot cope with the growth of the city.

The President assured the group that he would come back more often after this visit, declaring that the copper zinc refining projects, the iron mines, and the multi-million-peso projects in Iligan are in line with his economic development program.

After the conference the President tackled piles of state paper which he had taken along with him from Manila.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: April 22-28, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**April 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal this morning received newsmen in a breakfast conference and discussed with them local problems, including railroad fare increases, water shortage, and the stranded Muslim pilgrims in Singapore.

The President, assisted by the First Lady, received newsmen at the Macaraeg farmhouse some ten kilometers from the city.

The group was later joined by Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo Perez and Press Secretary Rufino Hechanova, who were, summoned from Manila to help the Chief Executive work on pending state papers.

President Macapagal later had lunch with Malacañang newsmen and discussed further local problems.

In the afternoon the Macapagals attended Easter Sunday mass in Saint Michael's church in Iligan City. He then worked on pending state papers with Hechanova and Perez.

President Macapagal today ordered the release of P3 million for self-help projects through the office of the Presidential Assistant on Community Development headed by acting Chairman Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr.

The money will be spent for projects aimed at increasing by at least five per cent the annual income of people in rural areas through the implementation of several projects.

The President based his decision on the recommendation of PACD Chairman Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., who reported to him on the status of the community development program, following an intensive observation tour of community centers all over the country.

In his report Perez bewailed the fact that since last July community development projects had slowed down and that politics had crept into the organization. Perez also reported that since he assumed office he had been concerned with weeding out partisan-inclined elements from the organization and in reviewing the projects that had been approved but had not been implemented since last year.

President Macapagal in allocating the amount of P3 million to PACD expressed his gratitude to the United States Government for the counterpart funds it supplied for the community development program.

**April 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal fulfilled today his campaign pledge to bring the government closer to the people when he held office in Iligan City where he received over a thousand people.

Starting at 8 in the morning, the President received some 30 delegations from different parts of Mindanao and the Visayas, particularly Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, Lanao del Norte, and Lanao del Sur.

The President received callers in the spacious patio of the farm residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg, in sitio Timoga, Buruun, Iligan City.

Among the delegations were those from Cagayan de Oro, another from Ozamiz City headed by Mayor Ramiro, the Barrio Council and leaders of Buruun, Iligan City, Dr. Leonardo Enad of Cebu City who came alone, the various municipal officials and leaders of Lanao del Norte, newly-affiliated members of the Liberal Party in the province who took their oaths of affiliation before the President, Neri and Albos of the Bureau of Lands, groups composed of other barrio councils of the city, a large women's group representing the city and province, Lanao del Sur delegation headed by Vice-Gov. Mamintal Tamano, Mrs. Jovencio Torralba, and Mr. and Mrs. Miguel P. Paguio, and many others who came individually or in small groups.

A touching scene was enacted when the President asked City Mayor Camilo Cabili to give a cripple a job either as a gardener or janitor in the city government.

Ramon Gonzalez, the cripple who had lost bot legs and a right eye during the war, cried with joy as the President interceded for him with Mayor Cabili.

The President also directed Acting Governor Arsenio Quibranza of Lanao del Norte to look into the case of another caller, Mrs. Teopista Rellen, who had filed a complaint against the district engineer as far back as 1956. The President told Vice-Gov. Quibranza that a decision on the matter should be secured immediately.

The President received his callers up to his departure about noontime in the spacious patio of the Macaraeg residence, located a stone's throw below Timoga Falls and fronting Iligan Bay.

From the President's bedroom could be seen industrial projects springing up on the opposite side of Iligan Bay.

The President left Iligan City with his family, accompanied by Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., at noon and arrived in Manila at 2:30 p.m.

**April 24.**—THIS morning President Macapagal had a breakfast conference with Mayor Antonio J. Villegas of Manila, who called at Malacañang to consult him on affairs of the city government. The conference lasted from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

Following the conference the President repaired to his study where he received Ambassador Hussein El Ahmady El Zawahry of the United Arab Republic, who paid him a courtesy call.

The Chief Executive spent the rest of the morning working on state papers in his desire to clear his desk of pending matters which had accumulated during the holidays.

In the afternoon the President again received a few callers. The afternoon visitors included Ernesto Santos of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank and Councilor Eduardo Quintos of Manila.

President Macapagal dispatched today Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez and Customs Commissioner Cesar C. Climaco to Singapore to conduct an on-the-spot survey of the situation and take necessary measures for the welfare of stranded Filipino pilgrims. The President made the decision following a conference with Vice-President Pelaez this noon and then placed at the disposal of Pelaez and Climaco the presidential Fokker plane.

The President also enjoined government officials involved in the pilgrims' trip from blaming, each other at this time. He said that after we have attended to the welfare of our countrymen and taken the remedial measures, we shall conduct a thorough investigation should circumstances warrant, and take action against erring officials.

President Macapagal today expressed the hope that the American government would maintain the present American prices on Philippine sugar. The President was heartened by the reported increase on the quantity of non-quota sugar which may be exported by the Philippines to the United States during the first six months of this year.

The reported increase for the Philippines was 6,746 tons. This would bring the Philippine non-quota avocations to 182,401 tons.

In a conference with Ernesto Santos, Monetary Board member, the President said he hoped the Philippines will continue to enjoy the American prices as well as gain an increase in quota so that the industry's plan would not be impaired.

The President and Santos discussed latest developments in Washington regarding sugar legislations. According to Santos, there seems to be disagreement in Congress to retain the quota system, whereas there are certain segments of the Kennedy administration that feel it would be adopted.

Santos, however, said that it is the consensus among American officials that the Philippines will be treated in accordance with the special relations between the two countries.

The President directed Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc today to wire the Department of Public Works and Communications and the National Economic Council to expedite their recommendations on a projected million-peso United Nations aid to the Philippines to meet the deadline set for the acceptance of the offer.

The President took this action upon reading a news item in an afternoon daily. Preliminary investigations conducted by Secretary, Mutuc showed that an urgent letter supposed to have been sent to Malacañang regarding the projected aid was never received in Malacañang.

The letter which was reportedly signed by the director of telecommunications and coursed through the Department of Public Works and Communications, was supposed to have been forwarded to the Office of the President last April 10.

Secretary Mutuc also requested the public works secretary to conduct his own investigation in his department for the purpose of pinpointing responsibility for the delay in the transmission.

The Philippines was given until Friday, April 27, whether to accept the \$1,006,600 aid for the establishment of a training institute for electronics and other fields of communications engineering deemed essential to economic development and security.

Secretary Mutuc assured the UN resident representative here that the Philippine Government would meet the deadline.

Under the projected aid agreement, the Philippines has to put up a counterpart peso fund.

**April 25.**—THE President started the day with a breakfast conference with Rep. Tobias Fornier of Antique and Reparations Commissioner Calixto O. Zaldivar. Commissioner Zaldivar is former governor of Antique.

After the breakfast the President proceeded to his study where he received scheduled callers.

President Macapagal received today senators, representatives, and provincial governors who called at Malacañang to consult him on pressing problems of their respective provinces.

Sultan Mohammad Esmail Kiram and Princes Tarhata Kiram called to discuss with the President the Philippine claim on North Borneo.

Then the Chief Executive received provincial governors; namely, Melanio Singson of Isabela, Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, Atila Balgos of Capiz, and Gideon Quijano of Misamis Occidental.

Headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal of Capiz and House Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano of Cavite, congressmen who called at Malacañang included Eugenio Baltao of Nueva Ecija, Ramon Bagatsing and Justo Albert of Manila, Godofredo Ramos of Aklan, Josifina Duran of Albay, Jose Alberto of Catanduanes, Maximino Noel of Cebu, Primo Villasin of Leyte, Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur, Virgilio Afable of Zambales, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao del Norte, and Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte.

The President kept receiving callers from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. His visitors came in individually as well as in groups.

He received senators in the afternoon. They were Ferdinand Marcos Camilo Osias, Francisco Rodrigo, Ambrosio Padilla, Gaudencio Antonino, and Estanislao Fernandez.

The President also conferred with Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.

President Macapagal recommended to Congress today the enactment of two measures designed to curb smuggling which, he said, had increased alarmingly in recent years "to the extent that it is drawing heavily on the lifeblood of the economy of the country."

One measure seeks the creation of an anti-smuggling coordinating offices and the other proposes to put more teeth into the nation's anti-smuggling laws in seizure and forfeiture proceedings by placing the burden of proof on claimants of seized items that the merchandise had been imported legally.

The President said in his letter to Congress that with the enactment of these twin measures, smuggling in this country would be greatly minimized and ultimately brought under control.

In view of the importance of the measures, the President strongly recommended their early consideration and approval by Congress. He certified to the necessity of their immediate enactment.

The President pointed out the adverse effects of rampant smuggling on the economy of the country, in the form of uncollected taxes and the inability of the government to provide protection to local manufacturers.

The police authority of the Bureau of Customs is limited only to the customs zone. The President felt there is need for the creation of an office primarily charged with the responsibility of coordinating the activities of all offices and agencies for the purpose of preventing, counteracting, and suppressing smuggling activities all over the country.

The proposed office shall have one chief with the rank of undersecretary. He shall be assisted by two assistant chiefs who shall have at least the qualifications of a provincial fiscal. The office shall have an investigating division staffed with lawyers, certified public accountants, agents, and examiners.

In recommending the change of judicial procedures in seizures and forfeiture proceedings on questionable merchandises, the President pointed out the impossibility of proving that an article had been smuggled into the country. Under existing laws, the burden of producing these proofs is on the government.

The proposed new measure seeks to reverse the procedure by shifting the burden of proof to the owners of suspected articles. It shall be for them to produce proofs that their merchandise had been brought into the country in accordance with laws.

President Macapagal issued today a proclamation declaring Wednesday, May 2, as a special public holiday to enable the people to commemorate the death anniversary of the late Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos. J. Santos.

**April 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred this morning with officials and prominent leaders from Zambales who called at Malacañang to take up matters concerning their province. Those who conferred with the President were Rep. Virgilio Afable, Gov. Manuel Barretto, former Rep. Cesar Miraflor, Antonio Diaz, and Cesar Lopez.

In the afternoon the President had another conference with heads of government financing institutions.

They were Chairmen Pablo Lorenzo of the Development Bank of the Philippines and Pedro Bandoquillo of the Home Financing Commission and General Managers Esmeraldo Eco of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, Ramon Diaz of the Government Service Insurance System and Rene Espina of the Social Security System.

**April 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal started the day today with a breakfast conference with Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Rep. Dominador Tan, Domingo Veloso, and J. Tan. Jr.

Following the conference the President met several delegations at the Palace social hall.

Barrio lieutenants from Masantol, Pampanga, led by Rafael Magat requested the President's assistance in the strengthening of irrigation and river dikes.

Datu Abduhadi Paladi of Jolo presented the President with an exquisitely-carved Moro kris said to have been with the Paladi family for five centuries. The Datu was accompanied by Giral Basal and Fangalima Paradji.

Officers and members of the Animasola, a socio-civic-religious organization, pledged their support to the President's move to create a moral commission. Dr. Domiciano Alcazar, president; Prof. Jesus T. Dera, executive vice-president; and Evelyn G. Tapiru, 1st vice-president, headed the delegation.

At his study room the President later received Juan Alano with whom he discussed the problems of the coconut industry. Then he conferred with Labor Undersecretary Bernardino Abes, Eulogio Lerum, and Antonio Policarpio, on unemployment benefits for laid-off workers.

Other delegations were those of the Philippine Navy enlisted men's wives association led by Mrs. Cristalina Bagtas, president of the association; the Surigao Independent Voters League, led by Ramon Noriega; from Laoang, Samar, led by Antonio G. Saba; and from Majayjay, Laguna, headed by Mayor Felix Gozo.

In the afternoon the President held his regular weekly press conference.

President Macapagal resumed his regular press conference after he failed to meet formally the newsmen and radiomen during the Holy Week last week.

During the press conference the President parried charges of dictatorship and said, "I am a lawyer and not a bum lawyer at that—modesty aside." He stressed that his actions are cleared by the secretary of justice, "who is not a member of my party."

After his press conference the President immediately left, and received Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr. Then he received Lt. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, who discussed with the Commander-in-Chief his plans of going abroad.

**April 28.**—CEBU City gave President Macapagal the red carpet welcome when he arrived there at 3 p.m. today to inaugurate a P1 million building of the Development Bank of the Philippines and discuss local problems with provincial and municipal officials.

It was the President's first visit there since the last election, and an estimated crowd of 25,000 accorded him a warm welcome upon his arrival at the Lahug airport aboard the Fokker plane of the Philippine Air Force.

Cebu Gov. Francisco Remotigue and former Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., led the airport welcomers that included City Mayor Carlos Cuison, Rep. Manuel Zosa, former Gov. Manuel Cuenco, and top officials of 49 Cebu towns and three other cities.

The President was accorded a 21-gun salute and military honors by a battalion of the third Constabulary zone. The Chief Executive trooped the line with Gen. Ricardo Papa, III Military Area commander, and Col Alfonso Palencia, III PC zone commander.

Following the military honors, the President shook hands with the people who virtually mobbed him as he walked to his waiting car. From the airport the President motored to the residence of Administrator Rene Espina of the Social Security System in Guadalupe, where he rested briefly before going to the DBP building.

At the inaugural rites Mrs. Macapagal cut the ceremonial ribbon, while the President delivered a speech in which he outlined his administration's industrial program.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



## President's Week in Review: April 29 - May 5, 1962

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**April 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal took six hours off his crowded schedule in Cebu city to visit Puro town in the Camotes Island group, which lies between Cebu and Leyte.

The President sailed to Poro aboard *RPS Ifugao* at 10 o'clock this morning. With him were Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal; their three children—Arthur, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.; Assistant Executive Secretaries Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., and Estanislao Bernal; Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova; Rep. Jose Briones; and former Rep. William Chiongbian.

The President's trip to Camotes Island, which he visited during the last election campaign, was in keeping with his policy of bringing the government closer to the people which he is vigorously implementing in all his out-of-town trips.

Earlier today the President had a breakfast conference with Senator Mariano J. Cuenco at the Cuenco residence in Lahug. Following the conference, President and Mrs. Macapagal heard mass at the Redemptorist church. From the church they visited Tabon district, a major part of which was gutted by fire that struck this city recently. The President was warmly received by fire victims who expressed to him their gratitude for dispatching immediate assistance through government relief agencies.

President Macapagal proclaimed Monday, April 30, as Women's Rights Day, Malacañang announced today.

The President proclaimed the day in order that the people may know and learn to appreciate the important role that is being played by the Filipino women in the economic, social, and political progress of the nation.

**April 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned shortly before noon today from a three-day trip to Cebu City and Poro, a tiny, thinly-populated town in the Camotes Island group.

The Chief Executive arrived in Manila at 10:40 a.m. aboard the presidential *Fokker* plane with Mrs. Macapagal, their three children—Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.—Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, and Estanislao Bernal.

The President left Cebu at 9 a.m., following a breakfast conference with Cebu provincial and municipal officials at the residence of Fulvio Pelaez, a cousin of Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez and president of the Liberal Party chapter in Cebu.

Full military honors, including a 21-gun salute, were accorded the Chief Executive shortly before he boarded the presidential plane at Cebu's Lahug airport. The military honors were rendered by a composite battalion of Armed Forces units stationed in Cebu.

Following the airport ceremonies, the President turned to officials and friends who saw him off at Lahug. Among them were Social Security Administrator Rene Espina. The President and Mrs. Macapagal stayed at the Espina residence during their stay in Cebu City.

The President rested upon arrival at Malacañang. Later in the afternoon, he went over the draft of the speech which he will deliver at tomorrow's Labor Day program at the Luneta.

The President left for Cebu City last Saturday to inaugurate the Development Bank of the Philippines' P1 million branch office building in that city and to confer with Cebu officials on local problems.

The President's trip to Poro last Sunday was in keeping with his policy of bringing the government closer to the people. He went to Poro, one of four municipalities in the Camotes Island group, aboard the *RPS Ifugao*. The President returned to Cebu late in the afternoon.

**May 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led the nation today in paying tribute to the Filipino workingman. He motored to the Luneta where he was principal speaker at the Labor Day celebration.

In his speech, which he delivered after viewing an impressive parade participated by some 50,000 members of labor groups, the Chief Executive outlined a six-point program which he said, would make labor a more positive and responsible force in the national life and ensure for the workingman a "fair share of the fruits of economic development."

He also pledged to employ all the powers of the presidency, moral as well as legal, to protect the worker's rights and fight the two enemies of the people—the politician and the vested interests.

President Macapagal said he would institute remedial measures to correct the ills inflicted by the politician who knows nothing but destroy the Administration, and the powerful vested interests who refuse to share their wealth with their workers and use this instead against me.

His participation in the Labor Day festivities was the only official activity of the Chief Executive this day. He stayed in the Palace the whole day and worked on state papers which had piled up as a result of his three-day absence from the city.

After the Labor Day festivities, the President motored back to the Palace and continued working on state papers. He also polished a speech on defense and military affairs which he was scheduled to deliver before officers and men of the Philippine Air Force tomorrow.

**May 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led the nation today in honoring the late Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos on the 20th anniversary of the hero's execution by the Japanese Imperial Army in Lanao for refusing to collaborate with the enemy during the occupation.

The President and the First Lady motored to the Abad Santos residence on Mariposa Street in Quezon City to greet the family of the martyr-jurist. They were accompanied by their daughter, Gloria.

Mrs. Amanda Abad Santos, the widow, thanked the President for having proclaimed the day a special public holiday. It was the first time that the death anniversary of the late justice was observed as a national holiday.

At the Abad Santos residence during the President's visit were the late hero's sons, Jose, Jr., and Osmundo, daughter Amanda Abad Santos-Madrigal, and close relatives.

The President and the First Lady returned to Malacañang shortly before 12 noon.

This afternoon President Macapagal announced plans to launch "an ambitious airport and airways development program" as he enlisted the support of the Philippine Air Force in this project.

The President said that by the nature of the country's geography, air transportation, among all modes, "appears the most charged with the probability of effecting far-reaching changes in our cultural and economic life."

In his speech following an afternoon loyalty parade and review tendered in his honor on the occasion of the PAF's 27th anniversary held at Nichols Air Base, President Macapagal also said that aside from its primary mission of providing air defense for our country, the PAF would, if and when the call of freedom is sounded, fulfill the country's military commitments with other nations of the Free World.

He pledged full support of his administration behind the PAP's stream lining and modernization program.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, received the usual 21-gun salute as he entered the parade grounds. He later reviewed his honor guard commanded by Lt. Col. Antonio Evangelista, and subsequently boarded a PAF weapons carrier to inspect the composite PAF battalion which was to honor him with the afternoon parade.

In the evening the President was guest speaker in ceremonies held under the auspices of the Jose Abad Memorial Society at the Philippine-American Life Insurance building on Isaac Peral.

The President in his speech called on the people to follow the example of Jose Abad Santos to prevent the nation from degenerating into a nation of moral cowards and sycophants.

President Macapagal held up to the Filipino people the life of the late Justice Jose Abad Santos as a guiding light to follow if this country would not develop into a nation of "moral cowards and sycophants."

After reviewing the events leading to the execution of Abad Santos, the President called the people to "emblozon his name in indelible letters of true greatness and immorality in our time and for all coming generations to enshrine as a reminder that a people's future and greatness lie in its character."

For it was sad but true, the President said, that the Filipino character is undergoing a "crucial trial of disintegration or renaissance." This is evident, he said, in the things happening all around us.

He cited how public office is regarded not as a mode of service but as a means of amassing wealth, and how leaders pose as servants of the people but have thoughts only of promoting their political ambitions.

**May 3.**—THIS morning President Macapagal had a breakfast conference with Public Works Secretary Paulino T. Cases, Undersecretary Rafael Contreras, Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., Highways Commissioner Fernando Arnaldo, BPW Director Antonio Villanueva, and Director Isidro Macaspac of the National Economic Council.

Following the breakfast, the President saw more than 1,000 people who came in several delegations. They were received at the Malacañang social hall.

Some 400 officers and members of the Lions International who are currently on their annual convention in Manila called to pay their respects. They were led by Mariano V. del Rosario, Procopio Reyes, and Antonio Quirino.

Other delegations included barrio councilors of the newly renamed Barrio Macapagal in San Pascual, Masbate; officers and members of the Association of Public Secondary School Administrators; municipal officials of Lopez and Sampaloc, Quezon, accompanied by Rep. Eladio Caliwara; some 300 tenants from Nampicuan Nueva Ecija; and groups from Pasig and Pililla, Rizal

Shortly before 12 noon the President inducted Mrs. Antonio J. Villegas, wife of the Manila mayor, as acting member of the Board of Censors for Motion Pictures.

Among individual callers were Rep. Pedro Trono of Iloilo, Councilor Mariano Magsalin of Manila, Reparations Commissioner Calixto O. Zaldivar, Editor Celso Cabrera of the *Manila Chronicle*, and George Cohen, president of Robot Statistics.

This afternoon the President received the credentials of Ambassador Jaime Alba Delibes of Spain in a ceremony held at Malacañang's ceremonial hall.

The President pointed out in his brief remarks at the ceremony, the analogous problems facing the Philippines and Spain in the social and economic fields and the efforts being exerted by both countries in their solution.

The same problems, he added, exist in all the countries in the Free World whose Christian and humanitarian spirit has made it their supreme goal to improve the way of life of their respective peoples.

As far as the Philippines is concerned, the President said, the socio economic program instituted by the Administration has for its primordial objective the exploitation of all the material resource of the country to stabilize its economy and improve the way of life of the masses.

In presenting his credentials, the Spanish Ambassador stated that if Spain would have the good fortune of receiving President Macapagal in a state visit, it would be a chance for the Philippine Chief Executive to see for himself how Spain has embarked in the solution of the same problems facing the Philippines. He said that the monetary plan of Spain is so analogous to the programs instituted in this country by President Macapagal.

The President and the Spanish ambassador delivered their remarks in Spanish.

The new ambassador received full military honors upon his arrival at Malacañang at 4 p.m., by a unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion.

Present at the ceremony were Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez, Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc, NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevos, and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez.

**May 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal instructed National Economic Council director Isidro Macaspac to coordinate plans to make the province of Cotabato the agricultural center of Mindanao.

In a conference with Rep. Salipada Pendatun and the heads of various bureaus, President Macapagal discussed plans aimed at producing 60 million cavans of palay and 80 per cent of the nation's corn needs in Cotabato.

Among the individual projects proposed and planned were river control, irrigation, classification of soils, release of public lands for cultivation, and the building of roads and bridges and transportation.

Present at the conference were Plant Industry Director Eugenio Cruz, Animal Industry Director Anacleto Coronel, Soils Director Ricardo Marfori, Census Chief Manuel Buenafe, Public Works Commissioner Fernando Arnaldo, and Agricultural Extension Director Teodoro Tuason.

Earlier, the President inducted Faustino Turla as acting Quezon City councilor, vice Councilor Pedro Tuason.

Ambassador Abdul M. Malik of Pakistan also paid a courtesy call on the President and conferred with him on Philippine-Pakistan relations.

Other callers were Rep. Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Rep. Manuel Cases of La Union, Rep. Eladio P. Balite of Samar, Rep. Rufino Antonio of Rizal, Rep. Joaquin Chipeco of Laguna, Rep. Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur, Rep. Tobias Fornier of Antique, and Rep. Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive received Public Works Under secretary Raul Contreras and Rep. Tobias Fornier. The President also held his regular weekly press conference.

At his regular press conference, the Chief Executive took to task some Nacionalista senators who, he said, had practically done nothing for the last 80 regular session days but criticize his administration.

He said the task of solving the problem of the people is a joint effort between the Executive and Congress, and took occasion to praise the Allied Majority in the House of Representatives, which, he said, has been responsible for the smooth enactment of his pet measures.

The President reiterated his stand against calling Congress to a special session. He said he does not believe in a special session, adding that the situation does not warrant calling Congress to another session, as he pins his hopes on the “sense of patriotism of the Nacionalista senators.”

At his press conference the President also:

1. Took to task his critics who, he charged, are the same Nacionalista partisan still nursing “a hangover from a drunken faith in the past administration;”
2. Promised to consult Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs Emmanuel Pelaez on the North Borneo issue;
3. Defended the National Bureau of Investigation from charges of negligence in the mysterious disappearance of Menhart Spielman, state witness against Harry S. Stonehill and two of his associates facing charges before the Deportation Board;
4. Indicated he may change the composition of the Philippine delegation to the International Labor Organization conference in Geneva if its present size and membership do not conform with the ILO constitution providing for representation of management; and
5. Said he considered the shooting in Ilocos Sur as a police case which is being investigated by the Constabulary.

**May 5.**—THIS morning President Macapagal motored to Antipolo, Rizal, on an annual pilgrimage to the Virgin of Peace and Good Voyage of Antipolo.

The Chief Executive left Malacañang shortly after 9 a.m. He was accompanied by Mrs. Macapagal and their three children—Arthur, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.

Arriving at 10 a.m. in Antipolo, the First Family knelt in one of the middle pews of Antipolo church to pray.

Later the President and Mrs. Macapagal went up in a homemade elevator to the image of the Blessed Virgin above the altar. They were accompanied by Father Hernando de los Reyes, co-adjustor of the church.

A big crowd of devotees gathered around the First Family when they walked out of the church. They returned to Malacañang shortly before noon.

Earlier at breakfast, President Macapagal conferred with National Integration Commissioner Gabriel Dunuan, Rep. Alfredo Lamen, Rep. Luis Hora, and ex-Rep. Juan Duyan on the development of Mountain Province.

The projects proposed included the building of roads to make the Banawe rice terraces and other scenic spots in the province more accessible to tourists.

The President did not receive any caller in the afternoon. He spent almost the whole afternoon in his study where he went over pending state papers.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: May 6-12, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**May 6**—THIS morning President Macapagal motored to Lubao Pampanga, and joined his townspeople celebrated their town fiesta.

Accompanied by his son, Arturo, the President left Malacañang about 9 a.m. Arriving in Lubao shortly before 11 a.m, the President first stopped at the town church where he said a few prayers. He was received by Rev. Fr. Vicente Coronel, parish priest.

Then he visited the homes of a few old friends like Rufino Dimson, Mrs. Jeremias Garcia, Jose P. Vitug, former Gov. Jose B. Lingad, and a former neighbor in barrio San Nicolas, Victor Lumanog.

During his two-hour stay in the town, the President took time out to visit an old lot in barrio San Nicolas, where once stood the nipa shack where he was born and where he had spent the earlier years of his boyhood. On the lot now are bamboo grooves and dense talahib growths.

On his way back to Manila, the President passed by Cubao, Quezon City, and visited his one-year old granddaughter, Ria, child of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Salgado.

The President was back in Malacañang about 4 p.m.

President Macapagal appealed today to Senate, President Eulogio Rodriguez and other N.P. senators to approve his pet measures.

The President sounded this plea in a press statement in view of the refusal of N.P. leaders to sit with him in a bipartisan council of leaders.

"It will be noted that the Administration has submitted only a few measures," the President said. "Ours is the administration which has prepared a minimum number of administration bills. Should the N.P. senators disapprove these measures, which the Lower House already approved, it could only mean that it is because the N.P. senators control the Senate and, therefore, they have acted purely for partisan reasons at the sacrifice of the people's welfare."

The President's press statement said:

"In view of the virtual refusal of the N.P. leaders to sit with me through a bipartisan council of leaders, I am making this appeal through the press to Sen. Rodriguez and the other N.P. senators to: approve the administration bills which, it is reported, they have decided not to act upon. . . ."

**May 7**.—PRESIDENT Macapagal had another heavy schedule of callers this morning. He received visitors continuously from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Malacañang.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fader, a Filipino couple who had lived in San Francisco, California, for 28 years, called to deliver a letter from Mayor George Cristopher of San Francisco inviting the President and members of his family to visit his city on their forthcoming trip to the United States.

The couple was accompanied by Dr. and Mrs. Manuel Carrion of the National Economic Council.

Filemon Rodriguez, president of the Indo-Pacific Council of the International Committee for Scientific Management, headed a delegation of council officers who invited the President to be honorary chairman and guest speaker at their international conference in November.

Other delegations which were received by the President at the social hall in Malacañang were those of the Market Vendors Association of Manila

headed by Gregorio Pineda; the Philippine Association of Exhibitors led by Macario Zapata, the Barrio Council from Bocaue, Bulacan, headed by Santos Agbayani; the Ilocos Norte Mayors league led by Mayor Angel Bautista and accompanied by Gov. Jose Evangelista; and a delegation from Pinukpuk, Kalinga, Mountain Province, headed by Mayor Castro Lammawing.

Shortly before 11 a.m, the President went up to his study to receive other callers.

Representatives of the sugar industry called to discuss with the President some problems of the industry. At the conference were Sugar Quota Administrator Conrado Manalansan, Manolo Elizalde, Alfonso Dampierre, former Education Secretary Jose Romero, Jose Mapa Gomez, Roman Nolan, Gerry Rodriguez, Eloy Baluyut, and Ernesto Santos.

The President also conferred with Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevos, Director Nicomedes Rupisan of the Philippine, Virginia Tobacco Administration, and Deputy Immigration Commissioner Virgilio Gaston.

President Diosdado Macapagal of the Republic of the Philippines has accepted the invitation of Field Marshall Mohammad Ayub Khan, President of the Republic of Pakistan, to make a State Visit to Pakistan from July 7 to July 13, 1962.

As leaders of two Asian countries that are linked by close ties of common interest, the visit of the Philippine President will provide an opportunity for an exchange of views on problems concerning the welfare and security of their peoples.

**May 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received reassurance today that a sufficient supply of palay had been stocked to meet any emergency.

The reassurance was given by former Rep. Jose Y. Feliciano, general manager of the National Rice and Corn Corporation, who conferred with the President at Malacañang this morning.

Also present at the conference were Administrator Cesar Climaco of the Office of Economic Coordination, Gov. Melanio Singson of Isabela, and NARIC Board of Directors Chairman Jose Calderon.

The President instructed Feliciano to start milling the palay to enable the NARIC to provide prompt relief in the event of rice shortage.

About 100 a.m. the President had another conference on the current strike staged by jeepney drivers which virtually paralyzed transportation in Manila. At the conference were Mayor Antonio Villegas, Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Jr., Undersecretary Bernardino Abes, and Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

The President directed today Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Jr., to look into the jeepney strike which had paralyzed transportation in Manila and the suburbs with a view to finding a just solution that would not in any way compromise the supremacy of law and order.

The Chief Executive, expressing grave concern over the paralyzation of general business in Manila and the suburbs, issued the directive following a three-hour, conference with Mayor Antonio Villegas.

At the same time, the President was also appraised by Villegas of the causes of the strike and the handicaps that the city executive faces.

Villegas informed the President that the strike was primarily due to problems affecting traffic in and out of Manila which had long allowed to fester. As to the basis causes of the strike, Villegas enumerated them as follows:

1. The boundary system which forces jeepney drivers to race against one another in order to augment their income;
2. Excesses of certain unscrupulous policemen in the matter of traffic enforcement; and
3. Inadequacies of present traffic facilities in Manila like the lack of loading and unloading stations.

Sen. Maria Kalaw Katigbak informed the President that the re-counting of votes in Batangas in connection with the electoral protest filed by former President Garcia had increased the votes of President Macapagal in the province.

In several precincts where the President was supposed to have scored no votes, the re-counting credited him with eight or more votes. According to Sen. Katigbak, the President had garnered 500 additional votes in Batangas as a result of the re-count.

Among the last callers at Malacañang this morning was Internal Revenue Commissioner Benedicto Padilla with whom the President conferred for a few minutes.

In the afternoon-the President and members of his family had a session with photographers of: local newspapers, magazines, and foreign news agencies who had sought to take a portrait of the First Family.

This evening President Macapagal called all Liberal senators to a dinner conference at Malacañang to discuss ways and means to insure the passage of administration measures.

During the conference the President and the LP-senators mulled steps designed to get the administration bills out of the committees as soon as possible.

The President has expressed grave concern over the apparent inaction of the Senate on measures which he considered vital to the successful implementation of the Administration's five-year integrated socio-economic program.

Earlier in the afternoon, the President received Manila Mayor Antonio Villegas who reported on the results of his talks with representatives of jeepney operators, and striking jeepney drivers.

Villegas informed the President that the jeepney operators and drivers had assured him that at least 50 per cent of their units will be operating tomorrow morning, to ease up the transportation situation.

**May 9.**—THIS morning President Macapagal received numerous delegations headed, by congressmen and provincial and city officials who called at Malacañang to consult him on problems of their respective localities.

Rep. Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur sought the President's intercession in behalf of some 2,000 Muslim families who had been reportedly refused building permits by the mayor of Basilan City after their homes had been razed by a recent fire. These families formerly had their homes in Campo Baro, a national property.

Headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, the congressmen who saw the President with their delegations this morning included Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo, Tereso Dumon of Cebu, Ramon Bagatsing and Fidel Santiago of Manila, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Manuel Cases of La Union, Venancio Ziga of Albay, Josefina Duran of Albay, Tito Dupaya of Cagayan, Rep. Salipada Pendatun, speaker pro-tempore, Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, Francisco



Lecaroz of Maririduque, Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental, Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Rufino Antonio of Rizal, Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur, and Virgilio Afafe of Zambales.

Other callers in the morning were Govs. Democrito O. Plaza of Agusan, Melanio Singson of Isabela, Dominador de Asis of Camarines Norte; Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, and Mayor Casto Profugo of Lucena City.

Shortly after 12 noon the President motored to the Manila Hotel where he was guest speaker at the regular weekly luncheon meeting of the Manila Lions.

This afternoon President Macapagal and his economic advisers met with IMF foreign exchange expert Albert Mattera to review the decontrol program of the Administration.

Matera has been loaned by the IMF to the Philippines as adviser on currency and foreign exchange. He has been working with Gov- Andres Castillo at the Central Bank.

The IMF official reported to the President that the handling of the country's decontrol program has been satisfactory, and reiterated the full support of the IMF organization for the economic policies of the Administration.

During the conference Matera showed the President graphs on the movement and rate of the peso. The graphs indicated that a larger supply of dollars was entering the market. It will be recalled that last April 30 the exchange rate went up to P3.92.

The foreign exchange transactions today showed that the strength of the peso had increased and that the ratio was now about P3.83 to \$1.

Matera also pointed out as significantly favorable the fact that the dollar, earnings of the country from January 22, 1962, to March 31, 1962, totalled \$161 million as against \$132 million for the same period last year, or an increase of \$29 million.

Matera observed that the administration did an honorable thing when it honored forward sales commitments entered before decontrol on January 22, based on the old dollar-peso rates of two to one, three-to-one and 3.2 to one.

Present at the meeting were Justice Secretary Jose W. Diokno, Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Central Bank Governor Andres V. Castillo, PNB President Bienvenido Y. Dizon, Manuel J. Marquez of the Bankers Club of the Philippines, Jesus Cabarrus, and Sixto Roxas, Jr.

The President also received some senators in the evening.

Malacañang this evening announced the following appointments:

- (1) Brig. Gen. Marcos G. Soliman, as chief of police of Manila, vice Col. Telesforo Tenorio, who will be given another post;
- (2) Councilor Herminio Astorga, as vice-mayor of the city of Manila;
- (3) Col Eduardo G. Quintos, as director of prisons, vice Justice Undersecretary Juan R. Liwag; and
- (4) Juan Baluyut, councilor of Manila, vice Astorga.

General Soliman, who will be at the same time chief of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA), will take his oath as chief of police before President Macapagal tomorrow morning.

Colonel Tenorio had been asked to report to Malacañang preparatory to his assuming a new post.

**May 10**—PRESIDENT Macapagal administered the oaths of office to four officials in separate ceremonies held at Malacañang this morning.

Inducted were Councilor Eduardo Quintos, who had been designated director of the Bureau of Prisons, Councilor Herminio Astorga as vice-mayor of Manila, Juan Baluyut as councilor of Manila, and Brig. Gen. Marcos Soliman as chief of police of Manila.

Vice-Mayor Astorga filled the vacancy left by Antonio J. Villegas on his assumption of the mayoralty of Manila, Baluyot replaced Astorga as councilor, and Gen. Soliman succeeded Col. Telesforo Tenorio (retired).

The directorship of prisons had been vacant for some time. It has been held concurrently by Justice Undersecretary Juan R. Liwag.

Following the induction ceremonies, the President received Mayor Antonio J. Villegas of Manila, who called to thank him for the “wise choice of men to help me in the city administration.” Mayor Villegas also consulted the President on other matters concerning the city.

Shortly after 11 a.m. the President conferred with Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, Rep. Lucas Paredes, and Public Works Undersecretary Rafael Contreras on the public works bill.

The President also conferred with Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco, who was among the last morning callers.

At lunch the President presided over the first meeting of his Council of Leaders. Present at the meeting were LP members of the Council; namely, Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, House Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, and Sen. Raul Manglapus.

Also at the conference was Governor Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank.

Earlier in the morning, the President honored another honest man with breakfast at Malacañang. The man was Patrocinio Tingson, 49-year old conductor of the Philippine Railway Co. who had returned to its owner a bag containing personal effects and cash amounting to P5,342.45.

In the afternoon the President had another conference with Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda of the National Economic Council, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechahova, Governor Castillo of the Central Bank, Manuel J. Marquez; Jesus Cabarrus, Aurelio Montinola, Sr., Manuel Elizalde, and Salvador Araneta.

President Macapagal honored another honest man at breakfast in Malacañang today. This is the fifth time that the Chief Executive had honored men of strong moral fiber in line with his moral regeneration policy.

Honored by the President this morning was Patrocinio Tingson, a 49-year old conductor of the Philippine Railroad Company in Iloilo, who returned to its owner a bag containing, clothing, other personal effects, and cash amounting to P5,324.45 left behind in one of the PRC couches last April 5.

During the breakfast, the President expressed, gratification, that there were men like Tingson who would prefer to stay honest. He offered to help Tingson in any way he can when he learned that the PRC conductor has eight children.

The bag found by Tingson belonged to Paterno Parcon, a recent arrival from Guam. Parcon left his bag when he got off the train in Roxas City.

Reading Parcon's name in the bag, Tingson went down from his coach and looked for Parcon the following day while passing Cebu on its return trip to Iloilo City.

**May 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had a breakfast conference with 27 congressmen at Malacañang this morning. Headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, and House Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, those present at the conference were Reps. Lucas Paredes of Abra, Godofredo P. Ramos of Aklan, Justino Nuyda of Albay, Tobias Fornier of Antique, Tito M. Dupaya of Cagayan, Jose M. Alberto of Catanduanes, Ramon M. Durano, Manuel A. Zosa, and Tereso Dumon of Cebu, Pedro Trono and Ricardo Y. Ladrido of Iloilo, Joaquin E. Chipeco of Laguna, Dominador M. Tan of Leyte, Francisco M. Lecaroz of Marinduque, Alfredo G. Lamen of Marinduque, Luis Hora of Mountain Province, Eladio Balite of Samar, Salvador R. Encinas of Sorsogon, Salih Utatalum of Sulu, Reynaldo P. Honrado of Surigao, Jose Cojuangco, Jr., of Tarlac, Virgilio Afable of Zambales, Alberto Q. Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, and Joaquin R. Roces of Manila.

After the breakfast the President repaired to his study to receive scheduled callers.

Ambassador William E. Stevenson called to deliver to the President a personal letter from President John F. Kennedy of the United States.

Ambassador Sankar Nath Maitra of India presented the President with a set of books embodying the articles and poems of the famous Indian writer, poet, and philosopher, Rabindranath Tagore.

The Indian Ambassador explained that the centennial celebrations in honor of the great writer this year include the presentation of such books to leaders of various nations.

Two delegations presented the President with awards. The Philippine Historical Association; headed by Nicolas Zafra named him honorary chair man of the association while the Human Relations National Congress headed by Dr. Dominador La Madrid presented him with a national award and a medallion of distinction for moral leadership.

Other delegations included those of Laguna mayors accompanied by Rep. Chipeco, the Philippine Navy Enlistedmen's Wives Association, a group of ladies from the third district of Manila, and leaders from Davao accompanied by Health Undersecretary Rodolfo Caños and Financial Assistant Gregorio Manongdo.

At 3 p.m. the President convoked a special meeting of his Cabinet.

Then he presided over his regular weekly press conference.

Shortly after 5 p.m. the President conferred with 10 officials. They were Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda of the National Economic Council, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Chairman Pablo Lorenzo of the Development Bank of the Philippines, Jose P. Bengzon, head of the reparations mission in Japan, Reparations Commissioner Calixto O. Zaldivar, I. Macaspac, G. Padua, A. Tangco, and C. Santiago.

About 6:30 p.m. the President administered the oaths of office to a number of new appointees.

**May 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal stayed in Malacañang today, cancelling his scheduled trip to Legaspi City where he was expected to induct barrio officials of Albay.

The Chief Executive had planned to leave for Legaspi City last night aboard a special train and the newsmen were to follow this afternoon.

However, the President was reported to have changed his mind and cancelled the scheduled visit to Legaspi City.

No explanation was available from Malacañang Press Office which had kept the time of the President's departure under wraps even to Malacañang reporters.

This morning the President received Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs Emmanuel Pelaez, who reported that Ambassador Emilio Abello is expected to arrive in Manila Monday.

Abello was summoned to Manila by the President for "consultations" following the defeat in the U.S. House of Representatives of the \$73 million Philippine war damage bill.

This afternoon National Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., saw the President. No details were available on the Macapagal-Peralta conference.

President Macapagal issued today a proclamation declaring June 12 this year as Independence Day in commemoration of the establishment of the Philippine Republic by the revolutionary government under General Emilio Aguinaldo in 1898.

In proclaiming the day a special public holiday throughout the country the President pointed out that June 12, 1898, "marked our people's declaration and exercise of their right to self-determination, liberty, and independence."

The President said that "such a historic and inspiring action was a legitimate assertion by the Filipino nation of their natural and inalienable claim to freedom and independence, which is an inherent right of every people not dependent upon the will and discretion of another."

The Chief Executive urged all national, provincial, city, and municipal officials throughout the country to make arrangements in their respective localities for the appropriate celebration of the day.

He said: "The transcendental importance of the event demands that it be observed throughout the land with fitting ceremonies to the end that it will be cherished forever in the hearts of the Filipino people and inspire them and posterity to greater dedication and endeavor for the welfare of the country and the wellbeing of mankind."

"It is our people's declaration of their inherent and inalienable right to freedom and independence," he added.

The President also issued today a proclamation declaring Monday, May 14, this year as a special public holiday in four provinces and four cities in the South in connection with the Muslim national feast of Id-UI-Azha.

Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc this morning dispatched telegrams to the provincial governors and city mayors concerned informing them of the proclamation.

Covered by the presidential decree are the provinces of Cotabato, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, and Sulu; and the cities of Basilan, Cotabato, Iligan, and Marawi.

Muslim officials and employees of the government, both national and local, working outside these provinces and cities, shall also be exempt from duty on this feast day.

According to the proclamation, it shall be considered as a special public holiday for these officials and employees in their respective stations.

The President moreover issued an executive order creating a presidential citation for honesty and integrity.

The special award which shall be known as the "Presidential Citation for Honesty and Integrity," was instituted by the President "in order to encourage and recognize outstanding, meritorious, and exemplary acts or records of honesty and integrity as a creed of life, and thereby strengthen the moral foundations of the nation."

The presidential citation shall be conferred upon any individual who has performed acts or established records demonstrating his possession of honesty and integrity as a creed of life.

The Philippines Heraldry Committee will prepare the design of the diploma and the criteria for its award.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: May 12-18, 1962**

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**May 13**—HOW does the common man feel about the disapproval by the U.S. House of Representatives of the bill authorizing the appropriation of \$73 million for the payment of the Philippine war damage claims against the United States?

Does he feel President Macapagal should still go on with his state visit to the United States on June 17 in the face of such a jarring development in the Philippine-American relations?

To get a sampling of the “little man’s” views on what had thrown a new chill in P.I.-U.S. ties, the President went today to Baliuag, Bulacan, a town near Manila which was celebrating its annual town fiesta.

Immediately upon arrival, the President was surrounded by a big crowd of people from all over Bulacan and nearby provinces that had come to Baliuag to attend the fiesta.

The Chief Executive knew that in his informal talk with the people the question of his trip to the U.S. would come up and he was right.

The first question asked him dealt with it and even before he had reiterated what he had said in his press conference last Friday—that he would wait for the arrival of Ambassador Emilio Abello before he announces his decision—almost everyone in the crowd had joined in.

One by one they expressed their views on the burning question of the day: Should the President still go on a state visit to the U.S. in June? To each view expressed the President lent a very attentive ear.

What he heard was a lucid off-the-cuff viewpoint of the man in the street, the folk in the rural areas, on an important development in P.I.-U.S. relations.

And this view, along with those expressed by the country’s lawmakers and officials, will be considered by the President when he forges his final decision on his state visit to the United States.

President Macapagal motored to Baliuag, Bulacan, about 11 a.m. and joined the people of Baliuag in the celebration of their town fiesta. With the President were the First Lady and their children, Arthur, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.

The President had lunch at the residence of Emilio Santos, Liberal Party chairman in Baliuag.

Local leaders flocked to the Santos residence on learning of the President's presence there. Among them were Mayor Alberto V. Violago of San Ildefonso, Bulacan, Emilio Rustia, Luis C. Flores, and Tomas Villafuerte.

Lieut. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, Armed Forces chief of staff who hails from the province, also arrived to greet the President.

After saying a brief prayer at the town church, the President and members of his family motored back to Malacañang.

**May 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had a breakfast conference this morning with his finance advisers at Malacañang.

It was a regular weekly conference which took up routine matters.

Present were Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Governor Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank, President Bienvenido Dizon of the Philippines National Bank, and Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, who is concurrently member of the board of governors of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

Following the conference, the President received Sen. Ferdinand Marcos and Rep. Felicisimo Ocampo of Nueva Ecija with whom he discussed legislative matters.

At 12:30 p.m. the Chief Executive had lunch with Philippine Ambassador to the United States Emilio Abello, who had been summoned to the home office for consultations. Ambassador Abello, who had arrived from Washington, D. C, early this morning, was accompanied to Malacañang by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs.

Later in the evening the President had his second radio-TV talk to the nation which was simulcast "live" by four television and four radio stations by remote control from the reception hall in Malacañang.

Entitled, "President Macapagal Speaks to the People," the address was telecast by Channels 9, 10, 11, and 13, and broadcast by radio stations DZFM, DZAS, DZQL, and DZRH. It was also rebroadcast by other radio stations in Manila and the provinces.

President Macapagal, in the second of his monthly radio-TV chat, announced his decision postponing his state visit to the United States.

The President was originally scheduled to leave for the United States on June 17. He may leave sometime at the end of next month to fulfill his commitments in Spain and Pakistan.

While nothing was definite officially on his trips to Spain and Pakistan, an authoritative source said that only the state visit to the United States will be deferred.

The President decided to put off his projected state visit to the United States after his conference with Ambassador Emilio Abello and Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs Emmanuel Pelaez.

**May 15.**—THIS morning the President conferred with members of the Allied Majority in the House. No details on the conference are available from the Malacañang press office.

However, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova told newsmen that it was a routine conference and the President reviewed his legislative program owing to the limited number of days before adjournment of the regular session of Congress.



Among those present at the conference were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, House Majority Floor Leader Justiniano S. Montano, and Rep. Tereso Dumon.

After his conference with the AM leaders in Malacañang, the President and the First Lady motored to the Saint Anthony church on Bustillos Street, Sampaloc, where they heard mass. They returned to Malacañang after the mass.

In Malacañang the President did not receive any listed callers. He worked on pending state papers.

President Macapagal today continued to receive messages mostly endorsing his decision postponing his projected state visit to the United States.

President Macapagal created today a national committee composed of top officials of the government and heads of various civic organizations to take charge of the celebration of Philippine Independence Day on June 12.

Creation of the committee was embodied in an administrative order signed by the Chief Executive this morning.

Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces was named chairman of the national committee, with Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., as vice-chairman.

Members included Public Works Secretary Paulino Cases, Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Jr., Health Secretary Francisco Duque, NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Tourism Commissioner Modesto Farolan, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sychangco, Mayor Antonio J. Villegas of Manila, and the presidents of the following organizations:

Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities, Veterans Federation of the Philippines, Philippine Chamber of Industries, Chamber of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Manila Rotary Club, Manila Junior Chamber of Commerce, Manila Lions Club, National Press Club, and the Civic Assembly of the Philippines.

Minister Manuel Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer, will act as member-secretary of the committee.

President Macapagal, in a proclamation which he signed last Saturday, declared June 12 as Philippine Independence Day “in commemoration of our people’s declaration of their inherent and inalienable right to freedom and independence.”

Touching on the significance of the date in Philippine history, the President said that it was on June 12, 1898, when the Philippine Revolutionary Government under General Emilio Aguinaldo was established.

“Such a historic and inspiring action was a legitimate assertion by the Filipino nation of their natural and inalienable claim to freedom and independence, which is an inherent right of every people not dependent upon the will and discretion of another,” the President said in his proclamation.

**May 16.**—THIS morning President Macapagal held a breakfast meeting with the Allied Majority members of the Lower House and which he had certified for enactment by Congress.

Congressional callers of the Chief Executive in the morning were led by Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun. The others were Reps. Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur, Josefina Duran of Albay, Manuel Cases of La Union, Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte, Francisco Lecaroz of Marinduque, Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental, Eladio Balite of Samar, Justo Albert and Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, Primo Villasin of Leyte, and Felicísimo Ocampo of Nueva Ecija.

In the afternoon the President received Sen. Gaudencio Antonino and Rep. Rufino Antonio of Rizal. He also received Governor Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank.

President Macapagal recommended to Congress today the enactment of a law designed to effect full decontrol through the elimination of the 20 per cent retention on export receipts and the imposition of taxes on excess profits of exporters.

In his explanatory note to Congress which accompanied the draft of the new measure, the President observed that there is bipartisan agreement for a return to free and private enterprise. The removal of control on the sale of foreign exchange is therefore imperative, he said.

The President recalled that in effecting decontrol through Circular No. 133, the government had found it necessary for a period of time to retain 20 per cent of the export receipts to meet the need which was created by the virtual lapse of the margin fee that netted the government \$200 million annually.

“It had been hoped that this 20 per cent retention would fill the aforesaid need for a longer period; but in the light of the operation of the decontrol program, it is now deemed advisable to remove the 20 per cent retention in order to effect fully decontrol and accelerate the fixing of an equilibrium rate for the dollar that would induce productivity,” the President said.

The Chief Executive stressed the need for providing for a source of revenues that would take the place of the retention percentage.

“After careful study, it is believed that the best source is an impost on the excess profits of the exporters who have immediately benefited most from decontrol,” he said.

**May 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred today with several members of the Senate and the House of Representatives on measures appealed for the passage of the administration-backed foreign exchange excess profits tax, embodied in the bill titled “A Bill to Effect Full Decontrol.”

The President said that in this bill there was a frontal clash between the limited interests of special groups and the general interest of the public which will benefit from the full implementation of decontrol.

The bill seeks to implement full decontrol by eliminating the 20 per cent retention of dollar proceeds by the Central Bank and substituting instead a tax on the excess profits of foreign exchange transactions.

The President stressed to the Allied Majority headed by Speaker Cornelio Villareal, Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, and Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano that unless the 20 per cent retention of dollar proceeds is eliminated, it would be difficult to establish conditions leading to the fixing of the equilibrium rate between the dollar and the peso.

The fixing of an equilibrium rate between the dollar and the peso is almost universally urged by businessmen in order to enable them to plan their business activities and expansion.

President Macapagal told the members of the Allied Majority that this is an opportunity for them to rise above the narrow confines of limited interests of special groups and support a measure vital to the success of the decontrol program for the benefit of the people.

It was stressed during the meeting that as between the 20 per cent retention plan of the CB and the tax on excess profits on foreign exchange transaction, the exporters will still be benefited.

The President, during the breakfast conference, put squarely before the Allied Majority the issue of public interests versus the limited interests of special groups.

Also present at the meeting were members of the Cabinet; namely, Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, CB Governor Andres V. Castillo, Assistant Executive Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., Assistant Executive Secretary Salvador Marino, and Serapio Datoc.

Members of the Allied Majority present were Speaker Cornelio Villareal, Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, Reps, Jorge Abad, Felipe Abrigo, Virgelio Afable, Justo Albert, Jose Alberto, Rufino Antonio, Eladio Balite, Eugenio Baltao, Jose Briones, Eladio Caliwara, Manuel Cases, Joaquin Chipeco, Jose Cojuangco, Jr., Floro Crisologo, Tereso Dumon, Tito Dupaya, Josefina Duran, Angel Fernandez, Tobias Fornier, Luis Hora, Luciano Joson, Ricardo Ladrado, Alfredo Lamen, Vicente Lara, Justiniano Montano, Juanita Nepomuceno, Felicisimo Ocampo, Lucas Paredes, Marcial Pimentel, Godofredo Ramos, Antonio Raquiza, Joaquin Rocas, Gerardo Roxas, Vincenzo Sagun, Jovito Salonga, Pablo Sanidad, Ramon Tabyana, Dominador Tan, Pedro Trono, Alberto Ubay, Salih Ututalum, Simeon Valdez, Cornelio Villareal, Primo Villasin, Venancio Ziga, Manuel Zosa, Guillermo Zambo, Reynaldo Honrado, and Vicente Pimentel.

President Macapagal continued today to receive expression of sympathy from American admirers over the non-passage by the U.S. Congress of the \$73 million Philippine War Damage bill.

Among the latest to denounce the action of the American Congress on the war damage bill was David Lilienthal, American author and former chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

In his wire to the President, Lilienthal expressed a “sense of outrage and deep unfairness” at the action of the “majority of the House of Representatives in the matter of the overdue war claims.”

This evening the President certified to Congress the urgency of the passage of the following legislative measures:

- (1) A bill fixing the tax on rice mills to replace the 2 per cent rice mill tax;
- (2) A bill to abolish the capital gains tax;
- (3) Revision of the Pure Foods and Drugs Act of 1908, sponsored by Congressman Pedro Q. Trono; and
- (4) A bill moving the Independence Day celebration from July 4 to June 12, sponsored by Congressman Justiniano S. Montano of Cavite.

Certification of these bills was considered necessary in view of the cooperative attitude of the Allied Majority and the requirement that no bills could be considered during the last day of the session of Congress unless certified as urgent by the President.

**May 18.**—UPON waking up, the President went over state papers and signed the reappointments of those whose nominations were bypassed by the Commission on Appointments.

He slept the whole morning, as he was reported to have stayed up late yesterday watching on developments in Congress on the fate of administration measures.

Then he attended a movie at the Malacañang state dining room and at 4 o'clock presided over his weekly press conference.

The President appeared refreshed when he presided over his regular press conference.

He welcomed Okinawa newspapermen who attended the conference and answered a question which they submitted to the Chief Executive.

The Okinawans wanted to know if the President would allow Okinawans to help in the development of the abaca industry.

President Macapagal said he would confer with Congress leaders who have shown inclination to give preference to Filipinos in the development of the industry.

In his opening statement at the press conference the President said: "Considering the circumstances, the Congress did substantial work in the regular session. Out of the 13 crucial administration measures, Congress appears to have approved five: namely, the national budget, the Rice and Corn bill, the Emergency Employment Administration, the multi-storey housing, and the P11 million calamity bill.

"It is regrettable, however, that the Congress, particularly the Nacionalista-controlled Senate, failed to pass eight vital administration bills. . . .

"The situation resulting from the failure by Congress to pass these measures will be assessed to determine the necessity of calling aspecial sessions. . . ."

## President's Week in Review: May 20-26, 1962

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**May 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today rushed back to Manila from Legaspi City and arrived at Malacañang at 8 a.m. He took the MRR special train which left Legaspi at 8 p.m. last evening.

The President conferred with government officials and political leaders of the Bicol region while in Legaspi and received callers at the city hall as part of his drive to “regionalize” Malacañang.

Upon waking up aboard the special train this morning, the President called for Lt. Col. Teofilo Zosa, general manager of the Manila Railroad Company, whom he had relieved as MRR chief.

During his conference with Zosa, the President assured the MRR general manager he has confidence in him, and was grooming him for a new position. He asked Zosa to stay “in the meanwhile” at his post.

The President then read the Manila newspapers and was disturbed by the headlines which quoted former Secretary of Justice Jose W. Diokno as having said, “I was fired.”

Newsmen wanted to see him for comment, but the Chief Executive told Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova he was “not available to the newspaper men.”

The President also inducted Juan R. Liwag as secretary of justice and Press Secretary Hechanova as acting secretary of commerce. Present at the oath-taking were friends and families of the Cabinet men.

The President also conferred with Liwag and Director Jose Lukban of the National Bureau of Investigation.

President Macapagal also received Turner Catledge, managing editor of the *New York Times*, and Robert Trumbull, Southeast Asia correspondent of the same paper. They were accompanied by Maximo Soliven.

President Macapagal reappointed today members of his Cabinet whose nominations were bypassed by the Commission on Appointments.

Reappointed were Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, Health Secretary Francisco Duque, Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Jr., and Central Bank Governor Andres V. Castillo.

The President also made these new appointments:

1. Undersecretary of General Services Alberto de Joya as undersecretary of defense, vice Lt. Col Mariano Yenke, who had retired;
2. Undersecretary of Finance Jose P. Trinidad as undersecretary of general services;
3. Former Governor Eliseo Quirino of Ilocos Sur as director of commerce, vice Rizalino Pablo, who was resigned to the National Economic Council; and
4. Former Governor Pedro Singson Reyes of Ilocos Norte as commissioner of the Social Security System.

President Macapagal also disclosed his offer to former Secretary of Justice Jose W. Diokno to continue as counsel for Col Jose Lukban, director of the National Bureau of Investigation, in the various cases against Harry Stonehill, even as he denied having fired his erstwhile Cabinet member.

The President told aides aboard the special train that took him back to Manila at 8 a.m., today from Legaspi City that Diokno had offered to quit the Cabinet to return to his private law practice.

**May 21.**—THIS morning President Macapagal administered the oath of office to three members of his Cabinet and one undersecretary in ceremonies held at Malacañang.

Inducted were Fernando E. V. Sison, who had been reappointed secretary of finance, Alejandro R. Roces, who had been reappointed secretary of education, former Gov. Manuel Cuenco as administrator of the Office of Economic Coordination, and Alberto de Joya as undersecretary of national defense.

De Joya, who was formerly undersecretary of general services, replaced Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke, Jr., who has retired.

Former Gov. Cuenco replaced Cesar Climaco, who remains as commissioner of customs.

In the afternoon the President administered the oath of office to Brigido Valencia as secretary of public works, vice Paulino T. Cases, who had been appointed general manager of the Manila Railroad Company, and Herminio Astorga, who had been reappointed Vice-Mayor of Manila.

This afternoon President Macapagal held a conference on the matter of defining the Philippine government policy on the claim of the Sultan of Sulu over North Borneo, at Malacañang.

Present at the conference were Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez, Undersecretary S. P. Lopez, Philippine Ambassador Emilio Abello, Minister Simeon Roxas, Minister Romeo Busuego, and Rep. Jovito Salonga of Rizal.

During the conference various angles of the case were discussed which were deemed helpful towards the formulation of a policy on the question. No decision was made.

This evening the President announced the appointments of two under secretaries and four other officials. Appointed by the President were:

- (1) Judge Magno S. Gatmaitan, as undersecretary of justice, vice Juan R. Liwag;
- (2) Juanito Montilla, as undersecretary of natural resources, to fill the post vacated by Salvador Cunanan, retired;
- (3) Arsenio Roldan Jr., as director of Fisheries, vice Jose Dumantay;
- (4) Galo B. Ocampo, as director of the National Museum;
- (5) Eduardo Bananal, as general manager of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration; vice General Juan Relosa; and
- (6) Dean Feliciano Jover Ledesma, as chairman of the Board on Textbooks, vice Juanito T. Maramara, resigned.

**May 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal administered the oath of office to nine more officials in ceremonies held at Malacañang this morning. Inducted were:

1. Andres V. Castillo, who had been reappointed governor of the Central Bank;
2. Jose B. Lingad as commissioner of internal revenue;

3. Benedicto Padilla as chairman of the Reparations Commission, vice Rodolfo Maslog, retired;
4. Fernando Arnaldo as director of public highways;
5. Arsenio Roldan Jr., as director of fisheries;
6. Cesar Climaco as commissioner of customs;
7. Galo Ocampo as museum director; and
8. Dr. Miguel Cafiizares as member of the board of directors, PCSO. Earlier this morning the President received James Ingersoll, head of the U.S. Agency for International Development in the Philippines, with whom he discussed AID program and policies in this country as well as in the rest of Southeast Asia. Ingersoll was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador William E. Stevenson.

The President also conferred with Ambassador Jacinto C. Borja, Philippine envoy to the United Nations.

Shortly before noon the Chief Executive received Mrs. Arsenio H. Lacson, widow of the late mayor of Manila.

Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc inducted into office today five officials of-the national and local governments who were appointed recently by President Macapagal.

Those who took their oath before Secretary Mutuc were:

1. Jose P. Trinidad as undersecretary of the Department of General Services, vice Alberto De Jbya, who was appointed undersecretary of the Department of National Defense;
2. Avelino V. Villacorta designated as acting councilor of the City of Manila to represent the third district, vice Eduardo Quintos, recently appointed director of the Bureau of Prisons;
3. Juan Baluyot designated acting councilor of the City of Manila to represent the fourth district, vice Herminio Astorga, who has been appointed vice-mayor of the City of Manila;
4. Ruperto G. Martin who was reappointed chairman of the Code Commission and
5. Felix Tiongco who was reappointed board member of the Gold Mining Industry Assistance Board.

This evening President Macapagal named his graft buster, Abelardo-Subido, chief of the Reparations Mission in Tokyo, with the rank of career minister, succeeding Justice Jose P. Bengzon.

The other appointments were:

1. Manuel. Feliciano of Tarlac as undersecretary of transportation and communications;
2. Former Rep. Mateo Pecson of Masbate as director of forestry, vice Tiburcio Serevo, who has held the position in an acting capacity;
3. Fernando Busuego, Jr., as director of mines, vice Benjamin; M. Gozon, who was named secretary of agriculture and natural resources;
4. Gregorio Reyes of Cagayan as governor of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration; and

5. Mayor Carmelo Porras of Davao City as director of the National Power Corporation.

**May 23.**—THE President started the day with a breakfast conference with Liberal Party leaders in the Senate and leaders of the Allied Majority in the Lower House to consider the advisability of holding a special session.

At the conference were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, House Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, Senate Minority Floor Leader Ferdinand Marcos, Sen. Manuel Manahan, and Sen. Estanislao Fernandez.

After the conference the President repaired to his study to receive; provincial and city officials who called to consult him on problems of their respective localities.

They were Govs. Arsenio Villarosa of Oriental Mindoro, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, Atila Balgos of Capiz, Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Sur, Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Benjamin Abubakar of Sulu, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Guideon Quiiano of Misamis Oriental, Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, and Dominador de Asis of Camarines Norte; Lieut. Gov. Jose Neri of Camiguin Island, Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental; City Mayors Antonio J. Villegas of Manila and Camilo Cabili of Iigan; and Board Members Nicanor Lopez of Catanduanes and Dominador Danan of Pampanga.

The Chief Executive also received numerous senators and representatives. They were Sens. Gaudencio Antonino, Maria Kalaw-Katigbak, and Rogelio de la Rosa; and Reps. Guillermo Zambo of Misamis Occidental, Josefina Duran of Albay, Justo Albert of Manila, Luciano Josen of Mindoro Oriental, Simeon Valdez of Ilocos Norte, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur; Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur, Alfredo G. Lamen of Mountain Province, Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Angel Fernandez of Pangasinan, Rufino Antonio of Rizal, Jorge Abad of Batanes, and Jose Alberto of Catanduanes.

The President later conferred with a delegation from Bohol headed by Ambassador Jacinto C. Borja.

Shortly after 12 noon the President administered the oaths of office to five government officials, namely:

1. Former Ambassador Roberto Regala as associate justice of the Supreme Court;
2. Former Presiding Justice Querube Makalintal of the Court of Appeals as associate justice of the Supreme Court;
3. Undersecretary Rodolfo T. Caños as acting secretary of health in the absence of Health Secretary Francisco Q. Duque who is abroad;
4. Clemente Gatmaitan as undersecretary of health for medical services;
5. Former Gov. Eliseo Quirino of Ilocos Sur as director of commerce; and
6. Fernando Busuego as director of the Bureau of Mines.

In the evening the President delivered his third radio-television chat which was simulcast “live” by four TV and three radio stations by remote control from the reception hall of Malacañang.

**May 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal called on the country’s rural bankers today to be in the forefront of the government’s continuing struggle to ward off communistic influences by bolstering the common effort to accelerate the nation’s economic growth.



“The task that lies ahead of us is to ward off communistic influences in our midst by raising the living standards. In the attempt to accelerate per capita income, or what we call economic growth, I call upon our rural bankers to be in the forefront of this noble cause,” the President said.

He expressed confidence that with rural bankers leadership in this effort, “we will win.”

The President was the keynote speaker at the opening this morning of the Ninth Annual Convention of the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines at the Pines Hotel.

In his well applauded speech the Chief Executive also urged the rural bankers to be models of the simple living, emphasizing that “our duty, yours and mine, is to be examples of self-discipline that our countrymen may well emulate.”

He likewise called on the conventionists to dovetail rural bank blueprint with the socio-economic development of our country as embodied in the Administration’s five-year integrated program.

The President arrived at the Pines Hotel at 10 a.m. sharp and was met by CB Governor Andres Castillo and top officials of the Rural Bankers Association led by President Jose Desiderio, who introduced him.

Following the speech, the President went down the convention floor and shook hands with the delegates.

The President went up to Baguio to address the national convention of rural bankers held at the Pines Hotel.

The First lady and the three Macapagal children—Arthur, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.—are with the President.

The President spent the afternoon conferring with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Sen. Manuel P. Manahan, and other LP leaders.

President Macapagal surprised Malacañang reporters this evening by giving them a dinner at Camp John Hay in lieu of the scheduled night trip to Manila.

Before motoring to the Camp, President Macapagal chatted with the newsmen at the Guest House and answered questions in a jolly mood.

Among other things the President disclosed he still saw no “proper basis” for convening a special session of Congress, the retention of ex-Gov. Juan Alberto as the minority member of the Reparations Commission, and that the Philippines will send a token SEATO force to Thailand only if there is a formal request.

**May 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today honored another honest man at breakfast.

Latest to be honored by the Chief Executive at the Mansion House was Celestino Hulog, a 37-year old car driver of the Manila Railroad Company car services connecting first class train accommodations from Damortis to Baguio. He was the sixth man to be commended by the Chief Executive for acts of honesty in line with his moral regeneration program.

Hulog, a father of seven children, found and returned cash amounting to P6,600.00, checks, and valuable papers left behind his car last May 12 by Bin Cho, a Manila textile mill owner.

He again found and returned yesterday an undetermined amount of cash and valuable papers belonging to a certain lawyer by the name Mangahas of Baguio City.

During the breakfast the President impressed upon Hulog the aesthetic value of honesty and expressed the wish that he will serve as an example to other employees of the government.

The President also offered to help Hulog in any way he can. Hulog comes from Naguilian and has been with the MRR since 1957.

Hulog arrived at the Mansion House with his wife, Monica, and six of their children. With them at the breakfast was the First Lady and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.

President Macapagal today mobilized various government relief agencies to extend all possible assistance to fire victims in Angeles, Pampanga.

In a wire flashed from the Guest House to Malacañang this evening, the President directed Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc to have the Social Welfare Administration, the Philippine National Red Cross, the Department of Health, the Armed Forces, and the National Marketing Corporation to attend to the immediate needs of the victims.

On orders of the President, Secretary Mutuc rushed to the fire-stricken town this evening to survey personally the extent of the damage, supervise the administration of relief, and look into the further needs of the victims.

Secretary Mutuc directed General Manager Teofilo Reyes, Sr., of the NAMARCO to take prompt measures to avert the possible rise of prices in the area, particularly those of prime commodities.

The Executive Secretary also appealed to Clark Field authorities to help in the relief work.

The President's directive was issued from Baguio upon receipt of a telegram from Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, who reported the raging conflagration in Angeles' commercial district. Gov. Nepomuceno estimated the probable damage at P6 million.

**May 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal rushed down from Baguio last night upon hearing of the fire that gutted the commercial district of Angeles, Pampanga. He arrived at the fire scene at 1 o'clock this morning.

From Angeles, the President proceeded back to Manila by car, arriving at the Palace at about 2 a.m.

After waking up late this morning the President summoned to Malacañang Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag and had lunch with him. With them was Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

In the afternoon the President went over pending state papers and signed appointments to fill up vacancies in the Public Service Commission and in the Immigration Commission.

President Macapagal today announced the appointments to key positions of the following:

1. Former Rep. Enrique Medina of Negros Oriental as public service commissioner, vice Alejandro Calang who has resigned;
2. Marcial O. Rañola, former Congressman of Albay and ex-Mayor of Legaspi City, as associate commissioner of immigration;
3. Josias K. Guinto of Laguna, as associate public service commissioner; and
4. Rafael Palmares, member of the Provincial Board of Iloilo, as member of the Board of Governors of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration.

In announcing these appointments, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova said that more appointments are forthcoming.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: May 27 - June 2, 1962

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**May 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Iloilo City at 10:20 this morning in line, he said, with his mission to “regionalize Malcañang.

A big crowd of welcomers led by Gov. Jose C. Zuluete and Rep. Ricardo Yap Ladrido greeted the President at the Mandurriao Airport.

The President came in aboard a Philippine Air Force plane because the presidential *Fokker Friendship* craft could not land at the airstrip now undergoing renovation.

The President inducted into office Rafael Palmares as ACCFA governor. Palmares is a member of the Iloilo provincial board.

During the induction rites President Macapagal announced that he was tapping more Ilongos for important government positions, r

While having *merienda* this afternoon at the residence of Dr. Salvador Saravia, the President announced his program of “preserving the independence of the judiciary.”

He reappointed to the bench two former judges-at-large who were legislated out of office by the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1954.

Renamed to the bench were Judges Jose Bonto and Maximo Abaño, two of the 10 judges-at-large whose positions were abolished during the early days of the Nacionalista administration.

President Macapagal said he will consult with Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag shortly about the return to the bench of the other judges-at-large ousted by legislation “to rectify the injustice of the law passed by a Nacionalista congress.”

Recalling that the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1954 was upheld by the Supreme Court with only a one-vote majority, the President observed that the statute should not have been given a retroactive effect so as not to prejudice judges already appointed and confirmed by the Commission on Appointments.

In a brief interview in Iloilo City while he was having *merienda* at the residence of Dr. Salvador Saravia, the President also:

1. Appointed Gregorio Y. Zara as vice-chairman of the National Science Development Board;
2. Said he will not recognize Godofredo Quinsim as chief of police of Iloilo City if the latter is a “midnight appointee” although confirmed by the Commission on Appointments; and
3. Disclosed his meeting with Sen. Oscar Ledesma, a Nacionalista, at the Guest House in Baguio City.

The President said he had asked Secretary Liwag to study the reappointment of Judge Felix Antonio of the Manila Court of First Instance whose nomination was rejected by the Commission on Appointments after a tiff with a congressman.

He explained that he wanted Judge Antonio's case restudied in line with his policy of preserving the independence of the judiciary and liberating judges from corruption by politicians.

In announcing the appointments of Judges Bonto and Abaño, the President said it was his position that Congress could not and should not oust judges from office unless for cause.

He pointed out that one of the 10 judges-at-large legislated out of office was Rep. Felicisimo Ocampo of Nueva Ecija.

President Macapagal said he will reappoint all the other “victims” who are still available before filling up other vacancies in the judiciary.

He stressed that he will give all members of the bench a feeling of independence and adequate protection from political interference.

Asked about his choice for the key vacant posts in the Armed Forces, the President said he was studying the recommendations of Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and will announce his decision soon.

He said he will follow the same criteria in AFP promotions; namely, merit, seniority, and justice.

President Macapagal said that he considers the Allied Majority as Liberals as he explained his decision to make the Liberals assume full responsibility in the conduct of government in a brief extemporaneous speech before an enthusiastic crowd in Pototan, Iloilo, this noon.

In his remarks the Chief Executive lauded the Allied Majority for saving the country from a disastrous dilemma between the President and the Nacionalista-controlled Congress. The congressional group merits the gratitude of the people, he said.

During his brief stay in Pototan the Chief Executive authorized the release of funds for the construction of an emergency hospital and a public market.”

The President, together with Mrs. Macapagal and their daughter Gloria, returned to Manila about 12:30 p.m. today.

**May 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned at 11:30 o’clock this morning from an overnight trip to Iloilo where he visited several towns.

In Pototan he authorized the release of P30, 000 for the public market and P50, 000 for the emergency hospital.

The Chief Executive returned aboard the Philippine Air Force plane *Mactan*, as the presidential *Fokker* plane could not land at the Mandurriao airport which is undergoing renovation.

The President stayed overnight at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Salvador Saravia. Waking up late in the morning, the President and the First Lady, accompanied by their children, Gloria and Diosdado, Jr., motored to the residence of Gov. Jose C. Zulueta who invited them for breakfast.

Although Gov. Zulueta supported President Macapagal’s political adversary in the last presidential elections, the President told newsmen he was accepting Zulueta’s invitation, being the governor of the province.

Braving stormy weather, the President decided to take off for Manila. The PAF *Mactan* encountered bad weather a few minutes after taking off from Iloilo.

Upon his arrival in the Palace, the President went over a pile of pending papers which had accumulated during the week. He also signed some appointments.

**May 29**—THIS morning President Macapagal had breakfast conference with a number of congressmen at Malacañang.

Headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, those present at the conference were Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, Reps. Tobias Forman of Antique, Justino Nuyda of Albay, and Lucas Paredes of Abra. Also present was Assistant Executive Secretary Salvador Mariño.

Following the conference, the President received Gen. Carlos P. Romulo who called to pay his respects. The general who recently returned to the Philippines gave the President his impressions of world conditions which he had gathered during his European tour.

Shortly before 11 a.m., the President administered the oath of office to former Chairman Abelardo Subido of the Presidential Anti-graft Committee (PAGCOM) as chief of the Philippine Reparations Mission in Japan, vice former Justice Secretary Jose P. Bengzon who had been appointed presiding justice of the Court of Appeals.

The President also inducted Mateo Pecson, former governor and representative of Masbate, as director of the Bureau of Forestry.

Other callers who conferred with the President this morning were Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Gov. Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank, and former Gov. Jovencio Q. Mayor of Romblon.

About noon time, the Chief Executive received Prince Chao Boun Oum, prime minister of Laos and head of a goodwill mission currently touring several Southeast Asian countries. Prince Boun Oum was accompanied by Gen. Phoumi Nosavan.

At 12:30 p.m., the President honored the Laotian goodwill mission with a luncheon at Malacañang. Also present at the luncheon were ambassadors to the Philippines of SEATO-member countries.

The mission is composed of Prince Chao Boun Oum; Gen. Phoumi Nasavan; Touby Lyfoung, minister of public health and social welfare; Khmaking Souvanlasy, political counselor in the ministry of foreign affairs; Impong Suryadhay, deputy of the national assembly; General Koo Vipakono, commissioner of rural affairs; and Chao Sinh Saysanom, mission secretary.

Also at the luncheon were Ambassadors Rangsiyakorn Aphakorn of Thailand, Alfred Stirling of Australia, John Arthur Pilcher of Great Britain, Francois Briere of France, A. M. Malik of Pakistan, and William E. Stevenson of the United States.

Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., assisted the President in receiving the luncheon guests.

After the luncheon the Chief Executive conferred briefly with Vice-President Pelaez and Ambassador Stevenson.

Then the President boarded his car and motored to the Department of Finance building where he held office at the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

President Macapagal criticized Western policy on Laos during the stag luncheon which he tendered in honor of a Laotian goodwill mission led by Prime Minister Chao Boun Oum.

In the presence of the ambassadors of the United States, Great Britain, and France, the President said "it is unfortunate that you and those who follow your leadership have not been given the full support of those which are leading the global struggle for human dignity and liberty."

The Chief Executive also said “it is incomprehensible that you should receive less support from the West than the neutralists among your people.”

President Macapagal’s speech carried undertones reflecting the deteriorated relations between the United States and the Philippines.

“Thus far, like you, our people have seen no merit in a policy of neutralism. We have deliberately kept aloof from neutralism which we regard as the gateway to communism,” he said.

President Macapagal assured all taxpayers and the public that under the present administration “every effort humanly possible shall be exerted in order that the collection of taxes shall be honest, just, and equitable.”

The Chief Executive gave this firm assurance in a statement which he issued shortly upon arrival from the Department of Finance where he held office at the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Following is the full text of the President’s statement:

“There is imperative need for bolstering revenues to meet the needs of expanding resultant public services and the requirements of the socio economic development program for the prosperity and welfare of our people. Because of this crucial need, I shall participate personally in the collection of taxes.

“For the success of the economic program and to avoid the imposition of new taxes, I appeal to the civic spirit and patriotism of all our country men so that they extend their full cooperation towards the collection of more internal revenues and customs dues.

“I call upon internal revenue and customs officials and employees to demonstrate their upright qualities and their loyalty to the service by refraining from practices that reduce the tax collections.

“A similar call is made to all taxpayers and taxable citizens to exhibit their qualities of integrity and good citizenship by paying the correct amount of taxes that are due from them to their government and by refraining from bribery of government personnel.

“To all taxpayers and the public, I give assurance that under the present administration, every effort humanly possible shall be exerted in order that the collection of taxes shall be honest, just, and equitable.

“Now is the time for all good Filipinos to help bring a new life of prosperity to the country. By duly paying your taxes, you shall have the right to feel that you are good individuals and citizens and that you are contributing to the building of a better Philippines.”

The President arrived at the finance department at about 3:10 p.m. He was met at the main door by Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison and BIR Commissioner Jose B. Lingad and employees of the department.

After acknowledging the greetings of the finance officials, the President proceeded to the office of Commissioner Lingad on the second floor and immediately conferred with all officials of the department. He stayed at the department for more than an hour after which he went back to Malacañang.

Present at the conference aside from Secretary Sison and Commissioner Lingad were Ruben Macapinlac, Mamerto Endriga, Deputy Commissioner Misael Vera, Ambrosio Lina, Elias Vega, Pastor Ayeror, Tomas Toledo, Domingo Padlan, and Vicente Lasquete.

**May 30.**—A SERIES of individual conferences with senators, congressmen, governors, and city mayors on national and local matters took up the whole morning of President Macapagal today.

The President conferred with Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, and Sen. Maria Kalaw Katigbak.

The congressmen who called on the President, together with a number of their constituents who consulted him on problems of their respective localities, were Venancio Ziga and Josefina Duran of Albay, Ramon Durano of Cebu, Virgilio Afable of Zambales, Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur, Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo, Joaquin Chipeco of Laguna, Rasid Lucman of Lanao del Sur, Manuel Cases of La Union, Alfredo Lamen of Mountain Province, Luciano Joson of Mindoro, Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Jovito Salonga of Rizal, Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Sali Ututalum of Sulu, Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur, Alberto Q. Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, and Rufino Antonio of Rizal.

Other callers were Gov. Democrito O. Plaza of Agusan, Gov. Felipe Sail Luis of Laguna, Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Mayor Luis Los Baños of Legaspi City, and Lt. Gov. Jose Neri of Camiguin Island.

In the afternoon the President motored to the U.S. military cemetery at Fort William McKinley where he was guest speaker at the annual Memorial Day services.

President Macapagal directed today customs officials throughout the country to enforce with an iron fist customs laws and regulations as he declared “total war” against smugglers and other law violators.

The President issued his directive during a one-hour conference with Customs Commissioner Cesar Climaco and other top officials of the Bureau of Customs.

The Chief Executive told the customs officials not to limit themselves to imposing fines in the enforcement of customs law and regulations, but to institute criminal action—if feasible—against smugglers and other customs law violators.

“It is about time we send these people to jail,” the President said.

During the conference, Climaco reported on pilferages of confiscated items in the customs warehouses. It was also suggested that in taking in new personnel, non-eligibles be taken in so that they may not hide under the cloak of civil service rules and regulations.

President Macapagal received today from two more Americans messages of regret over the failure by the United States House of Representatives to pass the \$73 million Philippine War Damage Bill.

The senders of the cables were Olga Yankee of 88: Northfield Road, Bedford, Ohio; and Jack C. Redman, a physician from 114 Oak Street, Northeast Albuquerque, New Mexico.

**May 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal underscored today the need of introducing policy and structural reforms in monetary and financial institutions of the government in order to mobilize their resources and facilities to meet the requirements of the socio-economic program of his administration.

In a speech delivered this morning before officials and employees of the Government Service Insurance System on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the GSIS, the President pointed out that the reorganization of these institutions would involve three principal objectives, namely: (1) to prevent bottlenecks from developing in production and capital formation which might arise, particularly from an inadequacy of financial resources or from the inaccessibility of these resources to worthy economic projects; (2) To develop new institutions, instruments, and procedures to provide inducements for increased savings out of current income and for the channeling of these savings to economic projects of high priority; and (3) To provide channels to facilitate the entry of foreign capital under conditions which will give adequate security of principal and attractive incomes to such capital.



The President was introduced by Ramon A. Diaz, general manager and chairman of the board of trustees of the GSIS. Other speakers included Cris I. Ibañez, corporate treasurer, who delivered the welcome address.

The program was featured with the awarding by the President of appreciation plaques and service rings to GSIS "Silver Jubilarians," officials, and employees who had rendered 25 years in the service of the GSIS.

The awardees were Arsenio P. Favor, manager, production department; Julian S. Gonzalvo, manager, accounting department; Marcelo G. Javier, treasury and small loans department; Apolinar Jovellana of the management staff; Lino F. Meneses, manager, buildings, and services department; Prim V. Najera, chief, central service records division; Aldrico V. Pasis, corporate treasurer II; Justo P. Racimo, assistant general manager; Federico M. Romero, manager, premium department; Nicanor S. Victoria, assistant chief, recording and control division; Alfredo S. Halili, executive and investment assistant; and Concepcion Ocampo, chief, small loans and miscellaneous investments audit division.

Accompanied by Mrs. Macapagal, the President arrived at the GSIS at 9 a.m. They were met by top officials of the GSIS led by Diaz.

Returning to Malacañang shortly before 11 a.m., the President conferred with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal who consulted him on legislative matters.

In the afternoon the President motored to the Bureau of Customs. Returning to Malacañang at about 4 p.m., the Chief Executive presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

This afternoon President Macapagal created a committee to study the immediate implementation of the emergency employment measure designed to relieve the acute unemployment problem.

He said he will sign the measure into law as soon as it is transmitted to him. It was passed by Congress in the last session.

The Chief Executive formed the committee after he and his Cabinet discussed the means of programming effectively the projects envisioned

The President will head the committee which will have the following members: Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Jr. and NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, who will be *exofficio* members of the Emergency Employment Administration Board.

Malacañang considers the bill the first attempt to use the country's human resources systematically.

The Administration will plan and execute an emergency public employment program in the following government-financed projects: (1) large-scale land clearance and the establishment of agricultural estates; (2) agricultural extension; (3) promotion of cottage industries; (4) conservation and reforestation of forest resources; and (5) public works projects that will promote economic growth.

The measure calls for a P100 million outlay. Sixty per cent of the yearly available fund will be spent for self-liquidating and revenue-producing projects. The law will take effect for five years.

The employment administration will also be authorized to negotiate loans with foreign financing institutions to finance preferential development projects.

The President signed today a proclamation designating the period from June 1 to 15 for the 14th annual educational and fund raising campaign of the Community Chest.

In his proclamation the President called upon all residents, firms, and organizations in Manila, Quezon City, Pasay, Caloocan City, and the municipalities of Makati, Malabon, Mandaluyong, Navotas, Parañaque, and San Juan to “give generously” to the Community Chest which unites into one annual appeal the fund campaigns of a number of welfare agencies.

**June 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal administered the oath of office to former Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo as the ninth president Of the University of the Philippines in a ceremony held at Malacañang this morning.

Following his induction, Gen. Romulo pledged that he would endeavor to keep the State University “a citadel of truth, free from political and religious partisanship”

The President also inducted:

1. Paulino T. Cases and Simeon Medalla as general manager and assistant general manager, respectively, of the Manila Railroad Company;
2. Enrique Medina and Dr. Josias Guinto as public service commissioner and associate public service commissioner, respectively;
3. Socorro de Castro as director of the National Waterworks and Sewer age Authority;
4. Felix O. Alfelor as director of the Abaca Corporation; and
5. Marcial Rañola as associate commissioner of the Bureau of Immigration.

After the ceremonies which was held at the Malacañang reception hall, the President went down to the social hall where he received numerous delegations. The delegations included those of the United Nations Association of the Philippines, headed by Auditor General Pedro Gimenez and Sen. Maria Kalaw Katigbak; from Quezon, led by Isidro Rodriguez; from Leyte; headed by J. Tan, Jr.; and from Batangas, led by Leopoldo Lopez.

About 11 a.m. the President repaired to his study where he received individual callers.

George Cohen, president of Robot Statistics, reported his findings on a recent socio-economic research.

Gen. Marcos Soliman, chief of the Manila Police Department, reported on the general progress of MPD activities.

Other callers included General Manager Teofilo Reyes, of the National Marketing Corporation, Dr. Gregorio Reyes, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, and Sen. Gaudencio Antonino.

In the afternoon the President presided over his regular weekly press conference.

President Macapagal told his weekly press conference that he was considering an invitation from the University of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to address that institution and receive an honorary degree.

The President had postponed indefinitely a scheduled state visit to Washington middle of this month following the disapproval by the U.S. Congress of the \$73 million Philippine war damage bill.

During the press conference, the President also:

1. Announced several changes in the administration of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Administration, including the appointment of National Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., as chairman of the board, and the transfer of General Manager Susano Negado to the Department of Public Works;

2. Said his statement on Laos should not be interpreted to mean that he was against the western powers but only as a reaffirmation of our country's policy against neutralism;
3. Said there were still no plans of sending a token force to Thailand but that the Armed Forces were preparing a team just in case a force had to be sent;
4. Announced the government would soon launch an electrification program for the rural areas under an Electrification Administration; and
5. Said he would soon meet with advisers to formulate a stand on the North Borneo question.

The invitation from Pittsburgh University, the President said, was extended to him before he postponed indefinitely his state visit to Washington.

Asked if there was any possibility that he might yet make an official visit to Washington, the President said that the June 19 date was "out of the question," as there was no more time to make preparations even if the deteriorated Philippine-American relations would brighten.

He would not say whether there was a possibility of making the official trip this year. It would be "inadvisable" to comment on these speculations, he said.

Asked to assess the deterioration of Philippine-American relations as a result of the defeat of the war damage bill, the President said there was "widespread resentment and disappointment" among our people because of the act of the U. S. Congress. However, he said, both Manila and Washington were trying to arrest the deterioration of the relations of the two countries.

The President said there was "absolutely" no connection between his statement on Laos and the \$73 million bill. He said he was only reiterating a traditional policy of the country against neutralism.

**June 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Bacolod City at 10:15 this morning aboard the presidential *Fokker Friendship* plane.

The President is accompanied by the First Lady and children Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.; Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, Philippine Air Force chief; and Acting Press Secretary Leo Parungao.

The presidential party was met by a large crowd at the airport led by Gov. Valeriano M. Gatuslao, a Nacionalista, and Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban, a Liberal.

The welcome rites included military honors rendered by a company of Philippine Academy cadets who are in Bacolod in the course of their summer seamanship training.

From the airport, the President motored to Isabela town, some 70 kilo meters to the south, where he had lunch at the residence of Natural Resources Undersecretary Jacinto Montilla.

President Macapagal swore in Montilla at the Isabela town plaza. He delivered a brief speech after the induction ceremony.

The President received political leaders in Isabela in the afternoon before motoring back to Bacolod where he will spend the night.

Tomorrow the President will have breakfast with Gov. Gatuslao at the latter's residence in what will be his second breakfast meeting with an opposition provincial executive. The first was in Iloilo City last week with Iloilo Gov. Jose C. Zulueta.

Other prominent welcomers of the President were City Mayor Teonsto Cordova, a Nacionalista, and Rep. Agustin M. Gatuslao, former Senator Ramon Torres, and former Reps. Augorio Abeto and Jose Puey.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: June 3-9, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 3**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned shortly before noon today from an overnight visit to Negros Occidental where he visited Isabela, some 92 kilometers from Bacolod City.

The President, together with Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal and their children Arthur, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr., left Bacolod City at about 9:50 this morning.

The Chief Executive appeared heartened by the welcome he received from both Liberals and Nacionalista leaders upon his arrival in Manila. He was also seen off at the airport by NP leaders.

The President woke up late at the residence of Vice-Gov. Gloria A. Esteban, who is the Liberal Party leader of the province.

He stayed up late conferring with the officials of the province and some residents of Bacolod City who took up their problems with the Chief Executive.

The President received the people in line with his program of regionalizing Malacañang.

From the residence of Vice-Gov. Esteban, the President motored to the house of Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, a Nacionalista. The President accepted Gatuslao's invitation for a breakfast in the latter's residence. Many NP leaders, including Rep. Agustin Gatuslao, were present at the breakfast given by the provincial governor.

Following the breakfast conference, the Chief Executive had a brief talk with Malacañang newsmen.

President Macapagal lashed out at "arrogant" newsmen whom he accused of finding fault with everything he does or says.

He said: "Give us a chance. Judge us not only by our faults but only by our deeds. In all my actions during the last five months, I assure the people I have always acted for the best interest of the country."

Interviewed, by local newsmen this morning, the President reiterated that the main program of his administration consisted of moral regeneration in the public service and implementation of his socio-economic program which would expedite economic growth and generate more job opportunities.

The President said these projects would take time but he pledged to solve the present economic difficulties through releases of public funds which are productive and which would afford citizens opportunities for more profits.

At the airport the President was given a rousing send-off by a contingent of Philippine Military Academy cadets who are in Bacolod City in the course of their seamanship training during the summer months.

Upon his arrival in Malacañang, the President went over pending state papers which had piled up during the week-end. He also went over numerous petitions presented to him in Bacolod City by residents of the locality.

In the afternoon the President and his family heard mass at the Malacañang chapel.

**June 4**.—THE President administered today the oaths of office to three more government officials.

Teodoro de Vera, former senator and former representative and governor of Sorsogon, was inducted as acting member of the Abaca Development Board.

Manuel Feliciano, who rose from the ranks in the Department of Public Works, took his oath as undersecretary for transportation and communications.

Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., took on additional duties as he recited his oath for the position of chairman of the board of directors of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority (NAWASA).

Earlier this morning the President conferred with Gov. Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank.

Other callers included Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco, Chairman Pablo Lorenzo of the Development Bank of the Philippines, Commissioner Jose B. Lingad of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, and Sebastian Ugarte, vice-president of Herald Publications, Inc.

Shortly before noon the President went down to the social hall to receive scheduled delegations.

The Better Roads Association led by Patrocinio Dayrit presented President Macapagal with a plaque inscribed with a resolution making him honorary president of the association.

A delegation from Aurora, Isabela, sought the President's assistance in the construction of a school and a feeder road in their locality. The group was headed by Mayor Priscilo Ramirez.

Amado Mira, president of the Civil Aeronautics Administration's employees association, headed a group of CAA officials who requested a piece of land for the site of a housing project for CAA employees.

The Chief Executive received callers up to 1 p.m.

President Macapagal this evening filled up two vacancies in the Court of Appeals, elevated a minister to the rank of ambassador, and promoted the judge of the court of first instance of Bataan.

Appointed to the appellate court were Antonio Cañizares and Antonio Lucero, now judges of the fourth and the eleventh branches, respectively, of the court of first instance of Manila. They are the most senior in the roster of CFI judges.

Other promotions effected by the President were Minister Emilio Bejasa, charge d'affaires of the Philippine embassy in Indonesia, to the rank of ambassador; and Judge Ambrosio Dollete of the court of first instance of Bataan, who was transferred to the court of first instance of Bulacan.

**June 5.**—THIS morning the President administered the oath of office to Rafael dela Peña as member of the Home Financing Commission.

Present at the ceremony held at Malacañang were Mrs. De la Peña, Rep. Eladio Caliwara of Quezon, and other friends and relatives of the new appointees.

Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun conferred with the President this morning on political matters. Malacañang did not release the details of the conference.

Minister Abelardo Subido came for final instructions before leaving for his new post as chief of the Reparations Mission in Japan. He is leaving for Tokyo tomorrow via Hongkong.

President Macapagal said today that he saw no need for calling the National Security Council to a meeting on the situation in Thailand. In a brief statement the Chief Executive said he was not inclined to go along with the proposal that he convene the National Security Council, because the situation does not warrant it at the moment.

No callers were scheduled in the afternoon. The President worked on pending state papers.

This evening President Macapagal took further steps to strengthen the judiciary as he signed the promotional appointments of 23 district judges on the recommendation of Justice Secretary Juan K. Liwag.

The promotions which had been based on seniority and efficiency, particularly the quantity and quality of cases disposed of by these judges, were extended in order to clear court dockets all over the country of their backlog of pending cases.

Judges extended promotions by transfer to 23 vacancies which are considered the premier positions in the CFI level were:

1. Ramon Avancena who was transferred from Aklan to Nueva Ecija and Cabanatuan City;
2. Emmanuel Muñoz from Pangasinan to Bulacan;
3. Guillermo Dacumos from Cagayan to Pangasinan and Dagupan City;
4. Mariano Benedicto from Mashate to Nueva Ecija and Cabanatuan City;
5. Manuel Estipona from Lanao del Norte to Camarines Sur and Naga City;
6. Roberto Zurbano from Cagayan to Albay and Legaspi City;
7. Juan Yap from Sorsogon to Leyte and the cities of Ormoc and Tacloban;
8. Filomeno Ybañez from Leyte to Bohol;
9. Francisco Area from Laguna to Manila;
10. Jaime de los Angeles from Pangasinan to Batangas and Lipa City;
11. Arsenio Nanawa from Iloilo to Laguna and San Pablo City;
12. Jose G. Bautista from Ilocos Sur to Laguna and San Pablo City;
13. Hilarion U. Jarencio from Branch III to Branch I of the Laguna and San Pablo City courts;
14. Juan de Borja from Antique to Bulacan;
15. Wenceslao Ortega from Ilocos Norte to Tarlac;
16. Lorenzo Garlitos from Leyte to Tarlac;
17. Demetrio Vinzon from Leyte to Negros Occidental and the cities of Bacolod, San Carlos, and Silay;
18. Felix Makasiar from Nueva Ecija to Cavite and the cities of Tagaytay, Cavite, and Trece Martires;
19. Jose C. Borromeo from Cotabato to Cebu and the cities of Cebu, Lapu and Danao;
20. Jose de la Cruz from Negros Occidental to Pangasinan and Dagupan City;
21. Felix V. Macalalag from Lanao to Aklan;
22. Honorio Romero from Davao to Pampanga; and
23. Jesus de Veyra from Baguio City to Manila.

**June 6**—PRESIDENT Macapagal decided today to call Public Works Secretary Brigido U. Valencia and other public works officials to a conference at Malacañang to discuss ways and means of speedily implementing the government's flood control program.

The President made the decision following a meeting with Mayor Antonio J. Villegas of Manila, who called at Malacañang this morning to consult him on city problems. The Manila executive was among a long list of scheduled callers made up of representatives, senators, governors, and city officials.

In his conference with Villegas the President expressed his desire to have the implementation of the flood control program expedited in Manila and other oft-flooded localities, in view of the on-set of the rainy season.

Other matters taken up by the Manila Mayor with the President this morning were:

1. The construction of parking lots on both banks of the Pasig River, a P5.5 million self-liquidating project of the city;
2. Suitable site for the projected tenement housing for the low-salaried and the wage earners; and

### 3. Further improvement of Manila's water and lighting systems.

President Macapagal had his hands full with local problems this morning as he conferred separately with 20 representatives, five senators, 12 provincial governors, and a number of city mayors. He received callers at his study from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In the afternoon the President accepted the credentials of Osamu Itagaki, new ambassador-designate of Japan to the Philippines, in presentation rites held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

The President also received Maj. Gen. Avelin P. Tacon and Maj. Gen. Derrill M. Daniel, incoming and outgoing chiefs, respectively, of the Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group, who called to pay their respects. They were accompanied to Malacañang by U.S. Ambassador William E. Stevenson.

Senators who called on the President today were Camilo Osias, Manuel Manahan, Ambrosio Padilla, Francisco Rodrigo, and Maria Kalaw Katigbak.

Representatives who conferred with the President were Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Virgilio Afable of Zambales, Felipe Abrigo and Eladio Balite of Samar, Jovito R. Salonga of Rizal, Emilio Cortes of Pampanga, Luciano Joson of Mindoro Oriental, Eugenio Baltao of Nueva Ecija, Alfredo Lamen of Mountain Province, Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental, Joaquin Chipeco of Laguna, Ricardo Ladrido and Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo, Simeon Valdez of Ilocos Norte, Justiniano S. Montano of Cavite, Tito Dupaya of Cagayan, Tobias Fornier of Antique, Josefina Duran, and Venancio Ziga of Albay.

The governors who saw the President were Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Dominador de Asis of Camarines Norte, Apolonio Malineza of Camarines Sur, Atila Balgos of Capiz, Felicísimo San Luis of Laguna, Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, Eulogio de Guzman of La Union, Alfonso B. Dadole of Misamis Oriental, Claro Robles of Quezon, and Antonio Mayuga of Romblon.

Other callers were Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental and Mayors Salvador Calo of Butuan City, Liberato Reyna of Dagupan City, and Tomas Ferrer of Zamboanga City.

This evening the President signed the appointments of the following officials:

1. Former Rep. Francisco Perfecto of Catanduanes as associate public service commissioner;
2. Corazon Juliano-Agrava, former judge of the court of first instance of Davao and former president of the Women Lawyers Circle (WILOCI), as judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court; and
3. Former Rep. Jose Puey of Negros Occidental as member of the board of directors of the National Development Company.

The President also promoted Guillermo Santos, presiding judge of the Court of Agrarian Relations, to the court of first instance of Manila.

**June 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred this morning with Governor Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank on moves to attract foreign investments to this country.

Governor Castillo saw the President for final instructions before leaving today for Washington, D. C., and later for Germany. Castillo said he would study various measures taken by other nations to stabilize their economy for possible adoption in this country.

Following his conference with Castillo, the President administered the oath of office to two new associate justices of the Court of Appeals who had been elevated from the courts of first instance of Manila. They were Antonio



Canizares and Antonio Lucero of the fourth and the eleventh branches, respectively, of the Manila courts of first instance. These two officials are the most senior in the roster of CFI judges.

The President also inducted Mrs Luz Lacson, widow of the late Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson of Manila, as member of the Board of Review for Moving Pictures.

In the afternoon the President received Frank Tremaine, vice-president of the United Press International.

**June 8**—PRESIDENT Macapagal ordered today Assistant Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño to make representations with Congress leaders for the speedy turnover to Malacañang of all bills approved by Congress during its last regular session.

The Chief Executive issued the directives in view of the fast-approaching deadline for presidential action on all measures passed by both houses of Congress.

As prescribed by law, the President has only until June 17 to act on the measures passed during the last Congress. That leaves him only nine days to study these bills.

As of now, however, the President has received only 17 of the 81 bills approved by Congress, and of this number only one is a major measure—the Emergency Employment Administration bill.

The President issued his directive to Marino shortly before he attended to a heavy schedule of morning callers at Malacañang.

Social Security System Commissioner Manuel Concordia called on the President to inform him about the approval of the contract to invest 50 per cent of the investible funds of the system with the Development Bank of the Philippines.

At the social hall veterans of the revolution against Spain called on the President to thank him for proclaiming June 12 as the Philippine Independence Day.

The President said he wanted to give due recognition to our revolutionary heroes and the day on which the leaders of the nation proclaimed their independence from Spain.

The Veterans were led by Captains Fortunato Oliveros, Hilarion Carpio, Vicente Saleza, and Emilio Calderon.

Officers of the Coordinating Council of Private Educational Associations led by Waldo S. Perfecto, Juan Nabong, and Dr. Domingo Jocson came to see the President to urge the “reexamination of educational goals in the light of the needs of modern society.”

Other callers were officers and directors of the NEPA led by President Servillano Batac and a Quezon delegation led by Rep. Eladio Caliwara.

At his study the President conferred with Sen. Ferdinand Marcos, Sen. Eulogio Balao, Speaker Cornelio Villareal, and Rep. Simeon Valdez of Ilocos Norte.

The President administered the oath of office to Ex-Rep. Juan S. Alano as member of the board of regents of the University of Mindanao.

Mrs. Dolores Alano-Laconico and Felix Gulfin witnessed the ceremony,

Other callers were Mrs. Medina Lacson de Leon, undersecretary of commerce, Iligan City Mayor Camilo Cabili, and National Integration Commissioner Gabriel Dunuan.

In the afternoon the President held his regular weekly press conference.

At his regular press conference the President said he is on a 24-hour watch for the development of his economic program and stressed that he was happy to report that the behavior of prices of commodities was well within his expectations.

He categorically told newsmen he will be “frank enough to admit my failure should my program fail to bring the prices within the reach of the people.”

The President said he will discuss the so-called high prices during his fourth radio-TV chat on Monday.

At his press conference the President:

1. Denied having told an American correspondent of the United Press-International that the United States may lose its bases in the Philippines owing to the serious deterioration of good will between the two countries;
2. Said he was leaving on June 29 for a series of state visits to Spain, Italy, and Pakistan;
3. Reiterated his statement that there has been no offer of a token force to Thailand and would send only military units to the communist beleaguered countries of Thailand and Laos, only upon a formal request from the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization;
4. Stated that he is still studying the recommendations of Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., on the promotion of colonels to brigadier generals and to the appointments of a vice-chief of staff of the Armed Forces and of chief of the Constabulary;
5. Underscored the need for calling Congress to a special session to take up other administration measures which have not been enacted during 100-day session;
6. Said he was awaiting the recommendation of the secretary of public works on the advisability of pushing through the Marikina multi-purpose dam; and
7. Assured newsmen he would define the Philippine position on the claim of heirs of a sultan of Sulu on British North Borneo.

Asked to comment on the high prices of commodities, the President said the situation “is not our making.” He blamed the “maladministration” of former President Garcia, particularly the corruption in high prices, for the spiraling of prices of prime commodities.

**June 9.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent a quiet day at Malacañang today.

He did not receive any caller.

The President worked on the draft of his fourth radio-television chat with the nation which will be simulcast over a nation-wide hook-up by remote control from the reception hall of Malacañang.

The President worked on the speech until noon time. Entitled, “President Macapagal Speaks to the People,” the message will be delivered from 7 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 11, and will be telecast by Channels 9, 10, 11, and 13 and broadcast by Radio Stations DZQL, DZFM, and DZAS.

In the afternoon the President started working on his Independence Day address to be delivered on the New Luneta on June 12 in ceremonies commemorating the 64th anniversary of the proclamation of Philippine Independence.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: June 10-16, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 10.**—AFTER working on his Independence Day speech this morning, President Macapagal decided to motor to Malolos, Bulacan, where he made a brief pilgrimage to the historic Barasoain church, site of the convention which ratified the constitution of the First Philippine Republic.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady and their children, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr., motored out of Malacañang at 4 o'clock and arrived at Malolos an hour later.

The Macapagals were met by Gov. Tomas Martin, Malolos Mayor Felix Reyes, and NP leaders of the province.

The Chief Executive went about the Barasoain church, and read the marker which immortalized the confirmation of the proclamation of the First Philippine Republic in Kawit, Cavite.

Reports said that the President may go to Kawit, Cavite, tomorrow morning to see the other historical site where the First Philippine Republic was born.

At the Barasoain church the President also said a prayer and then motored back to Manila, arriving in Malacañang at 7:30 this evening.

**June 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal called on General Emilio Aguinaldo " this morning at his residence in Kawit, Cavite, and stood with the Revolutionary leader on the historic balcony where Philippine Independence was proclaimed on June 12, 1898.

The aged revolutionary leader availed himself of the opportunity to express his gratitude to the President for declaring June 12 as Philippine Independence Day, which for more than "sixty years had been forgotten" by the people.

General Aguinaldo also informed President Macapagal that he would attend the Independence Day celebration at the Luneta to lead the Veterans of the Revolution in celebrating the occasion.

After greeting the General and his wife, Dona Maria Agoncillo-Aguinaldo, the President went down to greet the crowd that had congregated in front of the Aguinaldo residence and said that they were fortunate to "live near the national hero."

Among those who received President Macapagal at Kawit were Cavite acting Gov. Benigno Guinto, Kawit Mayor Herman Bay, Vice-Mayor Liberato Ilangilang, ex-Rep. Manuel Rojas, former Board Member Mariano Villanueva, and Kawit Councilors Benjamin Legaspi and Severiano Ceniza.

From Kawit the President motored to the National Library at the Luneta where Director Carlos Quirino and Executive Director Luis Montilla of the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission showed him exhibits and some manuscripts of Dr. Jose Rizal.

The President informed Quirino and Montilla that he did not favor the construction of the National Museum building at the Old Luneta because "it would destroy the beauty of the park, which is the only one that Manila could be proud of." He said that the Luneta should not be crowded with buildings but instead preserved as a park.

From the National Library building the President returned to Malacañang at about 11 a.m.

In the evening the President delivered his fourth radio-television chat with the nation which was simulcast “live” by remote control from the reception hall of Malacañang.

The President also received a delegation composed of members of the “Spirit of 1896” headed by Judge Guillermo Guevarra.

President Macapagal received today from President John F. Kennedy and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek messages of congratulations to the Filipino people on the occasion of their nationwide celebration tomorrow of Philippine Independence Day.

The American Chief of State’s message was conveyed to the President through the Department of Foreign Affairs by Ambassador William E. Stevenson, American envoy to the Philippines.

President Macapagal was presented today with a resolution unanimously approved in a recent special meeting of the municipal council of the historic town of Kawit, Cavite, thanking him “for his noble gesture in proclaiming June 12 as the official Independence Day.”

“There is no treasure left in this historical town but the memory of that fateful day of June 12, 1898, fortunately enlivened and placed among the annals of national recognition by President Macapagal.” it added.

The resolution said that the step taken by President Macapagal “call for rejoicing and jubilation” not only among the people of Kawit and the province of Cavite, or the surviving revolutionists and members of their families, but also among the people of the whole country as well.

**June 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led the nation in observing Independence Day for the first time on a day other than July 4.

Dressed in *barong* matched with gray pants, the President arrived at exactly 2:25 o’clock at the Independence Grandstand. He was accompanied by the First Lady and their three children.

The President was met with military flourishes and ruffles and applause from the crowd.

At the start of the parade, the President stood for 30 minutes at the front side of the ceremonial grandstand, and then withdrew to his chair and watched the four-and-a-half hour military and civic parade. He stood occasionally whenever the colors passed by.

After the military and civic parade, the President greeted General and Mrs. Aguinaldo who arrived in a car followed by an ambulance and a retinue of physicians and nurses.

The President started his speech about 5:30 o’clock, which lasted for almost 40 minutes.

In his speech President Macapagal exhorted the Filipino people to “consecrate ourselves anew to the great ideals that animated our heroic forebears” as the nation marked Independence Day on the date the First Philippine Republic was proclaimed.

At the same time, he told a large cheering crowd which gathered at the Luneta to witness the main feature of the freedom day rites that the shift to June 12 from July 4, the day Filipinos had been traditionally observing Independence Day, had nothing to do with the defeat in the United States Congress of a \$73 million Philippine war damage bill.

Explaining lengthily why he transferred the date of observance of Independence Day, the President said despite the transfer the Filipinos would continue to esteem and be grateful to the Americans even if they backed out of a “material commitment and obligation to our people.”

The President said he believed he would be expressing the sentiment of the people if he said they would be “ready to fight on the side of America, as in the past, in defense of freedom and human dignity for ourselves and for all mankind.”

After watching the reenactment of the proclamation of Philippine Independence, the President returned to Malacañang.

The President and the First Lady capped the celebration with a state dinner at Malacañang this evening.

Earlier in the morning, the President signed pardon papers for some 56 insular prisoners.

**June 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred this morning with two ranking officials of the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation who urged him to sign into law a bill passed during the last session of Congress exempting the government firm from payment of taxes.

Former Gov. Esmeraldo Eco and Gov. Jose Espino, chairman-general manager and board member, respectively, of the PHHC, informed the President that the measure, if approved, would save the housing corporation more than P5 million which it could otherwise invest in the development of low-cost homes.

The President administered the oaths of office to the following government officials: 1. Dean Feliciano Jover Ledesma of San Beda College as chairman of the board of textbooks; 2. Mayor Luis Los Baños of Legaspi City as member of the board of directors of the Manila Hotel Company; and 3. Major Eduardo Tajanlañgit as chief of police of Iloilo City.

The President’s callers this morning were made up mostly of senators, representatives, governors, and other provincial officials who consulted him on pressing problems of their respective localities.

Among the callers with whom the Chief Executive conferred individually were Sens. Ferdinand Marcos, Francisco “Soc” Rodrigo, and Gaudencio Antonino; Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun; Reps. Tobias Fornier of Antique, Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur, Eladio Balite of Samar, Rufino Antonio of Rizal, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Primo Villasin of Leyte, Luciano Joson of Mindoro Oriental, Venancio Ziga of Albay, and Pedro Trono of Iloilo; Govs. Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, Dominador de Asis of Camarines Norte, and Claro Robles of Quezon; and Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental.

In the afternoon the President had a conference with the Anti-Smuggling Group headed by Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevos, Acting Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.

Also at the conference were 28 representatives of ten government offices and agencies which had been mobilized in the all-out war launched by the President against smuggling.

**June 14** —PRESIDENT Macapagal assured today officials of Catanduanes of all-out government support of projects designed to hasten the economic growth of Catanduanes.

The President gave the assurance during a breakfast conference at Malacañang with provincial and municipal officials of Catanduanes led by Rep. Jose Alberto and Gov. George Almojuela.

Others present at the conference were Vice-Gov. Delfin Posada, Board Members Andres Torres and Nicanor Lopez, Provincial Treasurer Perfecto Olarte, Assistant Provincial Treasurer Fermin Bagadiong, District Engineer Restituto Chanco; Mayors Rafael Villaluna of Bagamanoc, Pedro Beraquit of Baras, Armando Vergara of Bato, Aristeo Arcilla of Calolbon, Isidro Icaranen of Pandan, Angeles of Velasco of Panganiban, Francisco Bernal of San Miguel, Juvenal Usero of Viga, and Salvador Surtida of Virac.

Following his conference with the Catanduanes officials, the President received Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal and Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun. They discussed legislative matters.

Then he conferred with Commerce Secretary and concurrently acting Press Secretary Rufina G. Hechanova, NAMARCO General Manager Teofilo Reyes, Sr., NARIC Chairman Jose Feliciano, and Central Bank Deputy Gov. Amado Briñas. They conferred on various ways of stabilizing the prizes of prime commodities.

After this conference the President signed into law a bill creating the Rice and Corn Administration. The signing of this bill, which was passed in the last session of Congress was witnessed by Speaker Villareal, Speaker Protempore Pendatun, House Majority Leader Justiniano Montano, Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Leo Parungao, officer in charge of the Press Office, NAMARCO General Manager Teofilo Reyes, Sr., and Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag.

Also present at the signing was Jose R. Feliciano, general manager of the NARIC; who was later sworn into office by the President as acting chairman of the Rice and Corn Administration.

In the afternoon the President received Minister Pok Thieum of Cambodia who came on a courtesy call.

At 4 p.m. the Chief Executive received the credentials of Belgium's first ambassador to the Philippines, Ambassador Albert Nijs, at impressive rites held at Malacañang's ceremonial hall.

The presentation of credentials of Ambassador Nijs was witnessed by Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez, Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc, General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Economic Coordinator Manuel Cuenco, and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez.

Following the presentation of credentials, the President administered the oath of office to Mrs. Lydia Viilegas, wife of the Manila Mayor, as member of the Board of Review for Motion Pictures. Later, the President received Napoleon G. Rama of the Philippines Free Press.

President Macapagal announced today the appointment of Teofilo Reyes, Sr., general manager of the NAMARCO, as acting secretary of commerce and industry.

The President made the announcement shortly before Secretary of Commerce and Industry Rufino G. Hechanova left for abroad on an 11-day trip that will take him to Pakistan and Spain to prepare the groundwork for the President's state visits to these countries.

Hechanova is concurrently acting press Secretary and Leo Parungao, press officer of the Central Bank, has been designated officer in charge of the Malacañang Press Office.

President Macapagal dismissed three suspended top officials of the National Rice and Corn Corporation who had been found guilty of administrative charges filed against them, it was announced by Malacañang today.

Removed from office were Jose V. Rodriguez, chairman, and Ramon F. Enriquez and Maximo Calalang, members, of the NARIC board of directors. They had been suspended last January 25 following the filing of serious administrative charges against them with Malacañang.

The three officials were charged with willful violations of: 1. Administrative Order No. 290, dated February 3, 1959, of the President requiring government contracts involving P10,000 or more to be submitted to the auditor general for review before they are perfected or consummated;

2. The presidential directive of November 10, 1961, that the NARIC should purchase rice direct from the farmers at P10 per cavan;

3. General Circular No. 24, dated September 25, 1958, of the Office of Economic Coordination which requires approval by that office of all transactions of government-owned or controlled corporations worth P100.000 of more; and

4. Conditions imposed by the Philippine National Bank in the grant of a P10 million overdraft line to the NARIC.

The officials were also charged with gross inefficiency in the discharge of their duties in connection with the purchase and disposal of NARIC palay and rice.

In an administrative order signed by the President on June 11, the respondents were adjudged guilty of the charges. The President's decision was based on the findings of Special Investigator Ignacio Santos Diaz, who had submitted an exhaustive report on the case as well as on the administrative affairs in the NARIC.

Rodriguez, Enriquez, and Calalang were removed from office, as chair man and members of the government firm, effective as of the date of their preventive suspension on January 25, with forfeiture of allowances and benefits to which they might have otherwise been entitled, the President said.

**June 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led Philippine officialdom today in welcoming the Philippine Air Lines flag carrier, a Series 50 Douglas DC-8 jet intercontinental airliner, when the aircraft arrived at 4:30 p.m. at the Manila International Airport on its delivery flight from Amsterdam.

President and Mrs. Macapagal were sponsors at the christening ceremony of the huge jet transport whose acquisition by PAL was in keeping with the national airline's implementation of its plan to resume international operations on June 20.

Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal formally christened the plane, *Sampaguita*, which will be PAL's flagship, in honor of the Philippine national flower.

The christening of the aircraft by the First Lady and a brief speech by the President highlighted the welcome ceremonies at the MIA for the new jetliner.

President Macapagal hailed the resumption by Philippine Air Lines of its international flight as he underscored the significance of the role played by air travel in the country's economic development.

In his speech the President said that being an island archipelago, the Philippines must develop and expand its system of air transportation and bolster its air travel link with the rest of the world to hasten its economic development.

"In this advanced day and age, when decisions have to be made quickly and when goods and services have to be delivered rapidly, it would be unwise for us to slow down our economic development to the pace of the plodding watercraft," he said.

The President said the resumption by PAL of its international operations was supplemental to the national air carrier's domestic responsibilities.

And in this regard, he said, the expansion and development of the domestic network would remain as the "overriding obligation" of PAL. In carrying out this obligation, the President stressed, the government is prepared to extend PAL every support and assistance.

Following the ceremonies at the airport, the President returned to Malacañang to preside over his weekly press conference.



The President introduced a new concept in his regular press conferences in Malacañang by saying he would not comment on statements of individual senators or congressmen, unless they are the authorized spokesmen of their political aggregation.

After his press conference the President had dinner with a group of unidentified businessmen at Malacañang.

The President started a busy day today with a breakfast with U.S. Ambassador William E. Stevenson. Then he received several delegations.

Officers and members of the Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations who are currently holding their fourth annual meeting came to inform the President of the aims and achievements of their present conference.

Eugenio Cruz, director of the Bureau of Plant Industry, and Dr. Travis Harrison, a director in the Department of health in Australia, headed the delegation.

Other groups were the Mindoro Oriental delegation led by Rep. Luciano Josen, Postal Inspectors and Savings Bank Promoters Union led by Manuel J Romero, a Samar delegation led by ex-Rep. Marciano Lim, residents of Masantol, Pampanga, led by Vice-Mayor Dioscoro Balingit, and farmers from Mayantok, Tarlac.

At the social hall the President administered the oath of office to Ex-Rep. Francisco Perfecto of Catanduanes as associate public service commissioner.

Perfecto's daughter, Miss Carmel Perfecto of the Budget Commission, provincial board member Nicanor Lopez, and other prominent residents of Catanduanes witnessed the ceremony.

Pakistani Ambassador Abdul Malik called on the President to discuss several matters regarding the President's state visit to Pakistan.

Then the President received Mayor Antonio Villegas, who discussed with him a proposal of the city government to use the Sunken Gardens area as a parking lot. The Mayor said that more than 800 cars could be accommodated in the area.

Other callers were Dr. Jose Pelayo, Antonio Prieto, Sr., and Col. Victor Dizon.

The President proclaimed Tuesday, June 19, as a special public holiday in commemoration of the 101st birthday anniversary of Dr. Jose Rizal. The Chief Executive issued the proclamation today.

In his proclamation the President pointed out that it was only fitting and proper that the people be given full opportunity to celebrate the day with appropriate ceremonies in keeping with the ideals and teachings of the national martyr-hero.

**June 16.**—THIS day President Macapagal crammed the whole day going over some 80 bills approved by Congress during its last regular session in a bid to meet the deadline for his action on these measures.

By early this evening the President had signed 36 measures into law, including the P1.3 billion budget.

The Chief Executive was assisted by Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag; Assistant Executive Secretaries Salvador L. Mariño, Rodrigo Perez, Jr., and Estanislao Bernal; Malacañang Legal Adviser Juan S. Cancio; and Leo Parungao, officer in charge of the Malacañang Press Office.

In going over the general appropriations act, the President was assisted by Budget Commissioner Faustino Sychangco.

The budget was reported to have been submitted to the President only at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: June 17-23, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was accorded a warm welcome when he arrived in Agoo, La Union, today to inaugurate the P5 million Masilip irrigation system in Tubao.

The big crowd that gathered in the Agoo station broke into loud cheers when the President and the First Lady got off the presidential train shortly before noon.

Provincial and municipal officials led by Gov. Eulogio de Guzman met the presidential party and escorted them to Tubao, which is one of the remotest towns of La Union.

Aside from inaugurating the irrigation project, the President's trip was also described as in keeping with his policy of "regionalizing" Malacañang.

At Tubao the presidential party was met by Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, who arrived there ahead for the inauguration.

In remarks at the Tubao rites the President reiterated the Administration's determination to check the rise in prices and appealed to the people to give him time because he has applied permanent solution to the problem.

Shortly before arriving in Agoo, the President gave a short interview to newsmen covering him.

The President and party were scheduled to return to Manila this evening;

**June 18.**—PRESIDENT Diosdado Macapagal administered today the oath of office to former Justice Secretary Jose P. Bengzon as presiding justice of the Court of Appeals.

Mrs. Antonia Bengaon, wife of the newly appointed court of appeals justice; his mother, Mrs. Felicidad Acosta Vda. de Bengzon; Mrs. Jose F. S. Bengzon, Jr.; Mrs. Felicidad Bengzon Gonzales; and Rafael Gonzales witnessed the ceremony.

Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon of the Supreme Court and other justices of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals were also present.

Justice Bengzon was formerly undersecretary and later secretary of justice during the administration of the late President Quirino. During President Roxas' time, Bengzon was city fiscal of Manila.

Bengzon received his liberal arts degree from the Ateneo de Manila and later finished Law at the University of the Philippines.

Before his appointment to the Court of Appeals, Bengzon was chief of the reparations mission to Japan.

President Macapagal earlier today conferred with various provincial and city officials on the construction of feeder roads, irrigation projects, schools, and other pressing projects in their respective provinces and cities.

Among the provincial and city officials were Govs. Melanio Singson of Isabela, Dominador de Asis of Camarines Norte, Miguel Manguerra of Marinduque, Democrito Plaza of Agusan, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, and Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna; Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental; Provincial Board Members Nicanor Lopez of Catanduanes, Dominador Danan of Pampanga, and Leocadio Ignacio of Isabela; and Zamboanga City Mayor Tomas Ferrer.

Other callers were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco, Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Rep. Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur, Rep. Justiniano Montano of Cavite, and Rep. Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental.

President Macapagal called on the nation today to ponder upon the historic role played by Dr. Jose Rizal in the great drama of nation-building in order that the national hero's "valiant efforts and untimely death may not be in vain."

In a message which he issued on the eve of the nationwide celebration of the 101st birth anniversary of Dr. Rizal, the President likewise cited his Administration's pledge to pursue Rizal's unwavering fight for freedom.

It was in keeping with this pledge, the Chief Executive said, that he had formulated certain basic principles and policies aimed at attaining our people's freedom from poverty, disease, illiteracy, and other ills which presently beset the country.

Malacañang released today for publication the assets and liabilities of Brigido R. Valencia and former Gov. Manuel Cuenco of Cebu following their recent appointments as public works secretary and administrator of economic coordination, respectively.

Their publication was in compliance with a pledge by President Macapagal to make public the net worth of top officials of his administration as a means of creating a new atmosphere in the government service.

Officials and employees of the government are required by law to submit sworn statements of their assets and liabilities, periodically. There is, however, no requirement that they be made public.

As exporter-importer, Secretary Valencia listed his total assets at P8,579,254.06; his total liabilities at P2,515,725.03; and his net worth at P6,063,529.03 last December 31, 1961.

Administrator Cuenco, on the other hand, reported his total assets at P379,514.54; his total liabilities at P71,433.70; and his net worth of P308,080.84 as of June 5 this year.

**June 19.**—AT a breakfast conference this morning President Macapagal acted to insure an adequate supply of sugar and bring down its price as he declared a government policy prohibiting further conversions of "B" sugar into "A" sugar.

The President's move, which had been recommended by Sugar Quota Administrator Conrado Manalansan, is expected to flush out some 100,000 tons of "B" sugar which is reportedly being held back by producers from the domestic market, resulting in insufficiency of the local supply.

In the conference at Malacañang this morning, Administrator Manalansan informed the President that the price of "A" sugar which is for export is P28 per picul while that of "B" sugar or domestic sugar is P20 per picul. Because of this price difference, according to Manalansan, people in the sugar industry hold back "B" sugar for conversion into "A" and cause an artificial shortage in the local supply.

The sugar quota administrator said that the country has an ample supply of the commodity to support its domestic and export needs.

To bring down its price and assure a steady supply for domestic consumption, he recommended the prohibition of further conversions from "B" sugar to "A" sugar.

Manalansan also said that he would welcome any congressional probe to, determine the cause of the rise in price of sugar. He was referring to a reported suggestion of Rep. Joaquin R. Roces of Manila that the House committee on good government find out whether the rise is normal or due to manipulation.

President Macapagal led the nation today in observing the 101st birthday anniversary of Dr. Jose Rizal as he joined a pilgrimage to Calamba, Laguna, the birthplace of the national martyr-hero.

The President's visit to Rizal's hometown this afternoon was in line with his policy of paying homage to hallowed grounds and recalling the significance of notable historic occasions.

In connection with the recent celebration of Independence day, the President motored to the Barasoain Church in Malolos, Bulacan, where the Constitution of the first Philippine Republic had been adopted, and later to the residence of Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo in Kawit, Cavite, where independence was proclaimed on June 12, 1898.

Accompanied by Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal, their daughter Gloria, and Sen. Manuel Manahan, the President arrived in Calamba about 3:30 p.m. He laid wreaths at the home of the hero and at his monument on the town plaza.

The President and his party were welcomed into the town by Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Gov. Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, and Mayor Tarciano Rizal of Calamba.

Although the President's visit was unannounced, Calamba residents lost no time in converging around the town plaza and later at the Rizal home on learning of the President's presence there. The President and the First Lady were enthusiastically cheered as they went around the town.

After paying brief social visits at the residences of former Mayor Severino Arambulo and Mayor Rizal, the First Couple returned to Manila, arriving at Malacañang about 6 p.m.

**June 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal gave today long overdue recognition and honors to a Palace oldtimer when he conferred on Minister Manuel Zamora, presidential protocol officer, the personal rank of ambassador.

Conferment of an ambassador's rank on Zamora, who has been carrying out the duties of presidential protocol officer since the time of President Quezon, was in recognition of Zamora's long and dedicated service to the government.

The President signed the papers elevating Zamora to the rank of ambassador at a simple ceremony witnessed by Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs Emmanuel Pelaez, Mrs. Macapagal, and Ambassador Zamora.

Zamora has been in the government service for 38 years. He started in 1923 as secretary to the late Resident Commissioner Pedro Guevara in Washington, D. C., a post he held for 12 years. He studied law and passed the bar examination in Washington, D. C., and was later admitted to the District of Columbia bar and the U.S. Supreme Court. In 1924 he was admitted to the practice of law in the Philippines. He has since served as Malacañang protocol officer under President Quezon, Osmeña, Laurel, Roxas, Quirino, Magsaysay, Garcia, and now President Macapagal.

Earlier, the Chief Executive conferred with Vice-President Pelaez who called on him in connection with the Vice-President's trip to the United States this afternoon. The Vice-President left for the United States on the inaugural flight of the Philippine Air Lines jetliner *Sampaguita*.

The President also received Spanish Ambassador Jaime Alba, Ambassador Mauro Calingo, Philippine envoy to India, Speaker Cornelio Villareal, Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, House Majority Leader Justiniano Montano, and Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevos.

In the course of a busy schedule today, the Chief Executive also conferred with 24 congressmen on matters pertaining to their respective congressional districts.

Rep. Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur discussed with the President the construction of an airport in Tandag, Surigao del Sur,

Rep. Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur, together with Zamboanga City Mayor Tomas Ferrer and other municipal officials, sought the release of funds for the construction of municipal roads, wharves, and several school buildings.

Rep. Eugenio Baltao of Nueva Ecija urged the President to implement the Central Luzon and Cagayan Valley Development Authority created by Republic Act 3054.

The other congressmen who called on the President were Reps. Venancio Ziga and Josefina Duran of Albay, Tobias Fornier of Antique, Jorge Abad of Batanes, Tito Dupaya of Cagayan, Ramon Durano and Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Simeon Valdez of Ilocos Norte, Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo, Laurentino Badelles of Lanao del Norte, Manuel Cases of La Union, Alfredo Lamen of Mountain Province, Luciano Joson of Oriental Mindoro, Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Rufino Antonio and Jovito Salonga of Rizal, Eladio Balite and Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Virgilio Afable of Zambales, and Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte.

The Chief Executive declared today that there shall be no privileged person under his administration as he turned down a petition for executive clemency filed in behalf of a convict sentenced to a prison term of 15 days for less serious physical injuries.

The case involved one Cirilo Buaya who had been sentenced by the Cebu Court of first instance to suffer a definite prison term of 15 days and to pay an indemnity of P300 in connection with injuries he inflicted on one Domingo Tabanao during an altercation in Moalboal, Cebu.

The Board of Pardons and Parole, acting on a petition for executive clemency filed by two influential politicians in behalf of Buaya, had recommended to the President the grant of absolute pardon to Buaya but only "after receipt of proof that Buaya has been confined in jail."

In denying the petition, the President noted that Buaya had been recommended for absolute pardon even before he had served his sentence.

He declared that under his administration "no man shall be above the law and there won't be any man who shall be big enough to evade punishment if he commits a crime."

The President disapproved today the proposed purchase by the Land Tenure Administration of the 26-hectare Moll Estate in Tigaon, Camarines Sur, for subsequent subdivision and resale to tenants.

Disapproval of the purchase which had been favorably indorsed by the past administration, was recommended by Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc, who found that the price being asked by the owners is exorbitant and which the few tenants of the property would be unable to pay.

The President's decision was taken to mean that he would disapprove similar cases of overpricing of estates favorably considered for expropriation by the past administration but whose contracts of sale have not been finalized.

In his recommendation, Secretary Mutuc declared it would be unwise and unnecessary to purchase the property.

LTA Commissioner Julian de Vera, who objected to the proposed purchase and who inspected the estate last February 27, reported that there were only few houses of light materials on the property and that its purchase by the government was widely criticized in the region.

The projected purchase had been pending since 1959. It was the subject of a directive by former President Garcia who July 7 last year had instructed the LTA to expedite finalization of the purchase.

**June 21**—THIS morning the President took time out to receive Jerry Secheter, *Time-Life* correspondent in Asia, who sought his views on Philippine-American relations and on a number of issues confronting the Philippines and other Asian countries.

The President also received former Congressman William Chiongbian who discussed with him local problems.

President Macapagal continued making preparations for his forthcoming state visits to two European and one Asian countries.

The President cleared his calendar of callers, and called in his assistants and inquired into the progress of preparations being made for his coming trip, the first he would undertake since he assumed the Presidency this year.

Malacañang said, the President supervised personally the preparation of the speeches and messages he is scheduled to deliver before various groups during his two-week stay abroad.

The Chief Executive is scheduled to depart for Madrid, Spain, on June 29 on the first leg of a two-week goodwill trip that would also take him to Italy and Pakistan. He will leave aboard the Philippine Air Lines flagship, *Sampaguita*.

Scheduled to accompany him are the First Lady, the three Macapagal children, Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, and aides.

In the evening the President worked on state papers.

**June 22**—THE President had a breakfast conference with a number of congressmen headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal.

Malacañang did not release the subjects taken up at the political conference.

The President received Ambassador Eugenio Rubino, Italian ambassador to the Philippines, who called on him in connection with the Chief Executive's scheduled visit to Italy.

The President received from the Italian envoy books dealing with Italian economy and culture.

The Chief Executive also received Justice Jose P. Bengzon of the Court of Appeals, Justice San Jose, Felix Amante of the presidential anti-graft committee, and Brig. Gen. Marcos Soliman, Manila police chief and concurrently head of the Intelligence Coordinating Agency.

In the afternoon the President presided over his regular weekly press conference at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

At his regular press conference the President announced that he had ordered acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Salvador P. Lopez to hand a "note to the British ambassador in Manila embodying our position which in turn asserts ownership and sovereignty" over British North Borneo.

The Chief Executive scotched fears that the public dispute over North Borneo might have undesirable repercussions and that such dispute could impair the present friendly relations between the Philippines and Great Britain.

Before presiding over his regular press conference, the President conferred with Lopez.

The President told newsmen that the Philippine Government had been made sole agents of the heirs of a sultan of Sulu to negotiate over their claim of North Borneo.

President Macapagal read the complete Philippine note to the “British Government during the press conference.

The Philippine Government asked in the diplomatic note that “conversations” be started either in Manila or in London by plenipotentiaries of both countries on the question.

It stressed that Manila would like the “matter of ownership, sovereignty and jurisdiction, and all other relevant points at issue in the North Borneo question” fully discussed.

**June 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal began today to clear his desk of all pending important state matters in preparation for his forth coming state visits to Spain, Italy, and Pakistan.

In view of the proximity of his scheduled departure for abroad, the Chief Executive did not receive any callers the whole day.

Instead, the President spent the whole day going over state papers and preparing the messages and speeches which he will deliver in the countries he will visit.

The President was assisted by Assistant Executive Secretary Estanislao Bernal.

The President this day appointed Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevosos acting deputy administrator of the newly-created Emergency Employment Administration.

Malacañang said the President will act as administrator of the EEA, a new agency designed to help solve the unemployment problem of the country.

Contacted today, Adevosos said he has completed the organizational plans for the immediate operation of the agency.

Other members of the EEA board are Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda of the National Economic Council, and one representative each from the majority and the minority parties.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



**President's Week in Review: June 24-30, 1962**

**President's Week in Review: July 1-7, 1962**

## **President's Week in Review: July 8-14, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**July 8.**—ON the third day of his stay in Rome, the President and Italian President Antonio Segni issued a joint communique reassuring their faith in their defensive alliances with the free world against communism.

The Philippine and the Italian Presidents also agreed on the need for an increased trade between the Philippines and Italy.

Today the President had a free day in Rome. He heard mass at the Philippine Seminary College and chatted with Filipino priests. Later he received a Vatican official who gave him and Mrs. Macapagal decorations from the Pope.

The President is scheduled to visit the Vatican tomorrow where he will have an audience with Pope John XXIII.

On the eve of the President's visit to the Vatican, the Vatican newspaper *L'Observatore Romano* carried an editorial praising the Philippines. It said President Macapagal's presence in Rome confirmed the ancient ties between the Philippines and the Roman Catholic Church.

**July 9**—PRESIDENT Macapagal shifted today to the Vatican where he had a 50-minute state audience with Pope John XXIII.

Reports reaching Manila said the Supreme Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church and President Macapagal met privately for 30 minutes in the Apostolic Palace's throne room.

Mrs. Macapagal was then admitted to the room and joined her husband in an audience with the Pontiff.

During the President's state audience, the Pope gave an apostolic blessing for all Filipinos.

The President's visit to the Vatican was featured by colorful ceremonies.

Prince Carlo Pacelli, nephew of the late Pope Pius XII and general councilor for Vatican City, met the President at the boundary of the city.

Swiss guards of the Vatican, in their colorful uniform, saluted the President as his motorcade entered the city.

The President was in a formal attire and wore his new Vatican order. He came five minutes behind schedule, reports said.

The President also received in the name of Pope John XXIII the collar of the Order of Pope Pius XII.

The award was presented to the Chief Executive by Monsignor Angelo Dell Aqua, a member of the Vatican state secretariat, who called on the Chief Executive at the Philippine Embassy.

The award was said to be "the third highest papal decoration."

President Macapagal called today on the free nations of Asia to make their national independence "meaningful in terms of a better life for our peoples" and to dedicated themselves to the task of achieving a just and fruitful reconciliation with the West.

The Chief Executive made this appeal in a speech delivered at 8 o'clock this evening (3 a.m. Tuesday, July 10, Manila Time) before chiefs of Asian diplomatic missions in Italy who had tendered a diplomatic reception in his honor.

"Today, when nearly all of our peoples in Asia have achieved their liberation from Western domination, two tasks impose themselves upon us," the President told the diplomatic representatives to Italy of Nationalist China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Japan, Thailand, Nepal, Korea, Vietnam, and Ceylon.

One of these tasks, he said is to make our national independence meaningful in terms of a better life for our peoples. The other is to address ourselves to the task of achieving a just and friendly reconciliation with the West.

"We must meet in a friendly spirit every effort that the Western powers are prepared to exert in order to erase the past record of injuries and humiliations, and to build their relations with us on new foundations of dignity, equal rights, and mutual respects," the Chief Executive declared.

He expressed the firm belief that "regardless of the differences that may exist among our Asian countries on the political, economic, or cultural plane, we can in the future best ensure the improvement of the life of our peoples, as well as their security and survival."

**July 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal assured Pope John XXIII today that as long as he represents the Filipino people "we shall ever keep alive the fires of love for humanity, strive at all times to secure the peace of the world, and ever keep in mind that while we are the State's most loyal servant, we are God's first."

The Chief Executive made this solemn assurance in his response to remarks by Pope John and the apostolic blessing given by the Holy Father for the Filipino people.

Pope John received the President, Mrs. Macapagal, and the other members of the presidential party in a 50-minute state audience, an occasion which highlighted the President's visit to Rome.

In his response the President said that in receiving him, Mrs. Macapagal, and other members of the presidential party in an official audience, the Pope, had accorded to them and the Filipino people "a very rare privilege and honor."

He said that being the only Christian, Catholic country in Asia, the Philippines looks to the Holy Father in Rome for spiritual guidance and wisdom.

Referring to the many imprints that Christianity has left on the national character of the Filipinos, the President said that "we continue to draw inspiration from the precepts of Christ for the just and humanitarian conduct of the affairs of the government, for the defense of truth, and for the upliftment of the level of human dignity."

A reception tendered in his honor by chiefs of Asian diplomatic missions in Italy ended the President's schedule of activities in Rome.

President Macapagal at 6 p.m. this evening (Manila time) took off for Karachi on the third leg of his 18-day overseas trip.

Reports reaching Manila said the President, Mrs. Macapagal, and members of his party took off aboard the Philippine Air Lines Viscount turbo-jet at 11 a.m. (Rome time) in bright sunshine as Italian Government and Vatican officials stood with members of the Filipino community to see him off at the airport.

*Ciao, ciao, ciao* (good-bye, good-bye, good-bye) chanted a number of school children who were at the Ciampino airport to see the Philippine President off.

The President is expected to land at Karachi at 4:30 o'clock tomorrow morning' (Manila time) or 8:30 a.m. (Karachi time).

**July 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Karachi at 8: 37 o'clock this morning (11:37 a.m. Manila time). He is scheduled to stay in Karachi until Friday and then fly to Lahore, Capital of West Pakistan.

Reports reaching Manila said that despite a sweltering temperature, a large crowd headed by President Ayub Khan turned out at the airport to give the President a red carpet welcome. The temperature was receded at 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

A large number of people lined up the presidential route to see the arrival of President Macapagal in Karachi.

Although there were no speeches at the airport, there were, however, military honors given the visiting Philippine President by a detachment of Pakistan's armed forces.

A few hours after his arrival in Karachi, the President laid a wreath at the tomb of Ali Jinnah, founder of Pakistan. President Macapagal laid a red-orange-and-yellow wreath on the marble sarcophagus in the vault buried down in a man-made hill on the outskirts of Karachi.

After visiting Catholic countries like Spain and Italy, the President is now in a state which is dominated by Moslems.

Observing the Moslems custom, the President used cloth slippers over his' shoes as he entered Jamah's tomb.

The President was accompanied by Pakistan Finance Minister Abdul Quadir and the commissioner of Karachi, Chulam Ahmed Madni.

This evening the President was honored with a state dinner given by President Ayub Khan at the presidential palace.

Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc ordered today the immediate restoration of the house where Apolinario Mabini was born in barrio Talaga, Tanauan, Batangas.

Touched by the state of dilapidation in which he found the house, Secretary Mutuc directed the caretaker to recruit local labor and to submit an estimate of the expenses to him so that he can look for funds for the restoration.

The Executive Secretary received a pleasant surprise when the caretaker introduced himself as Apolinario Mabini, II, a nephew of the Sublime Paralytic.

According to the caretaker, the cost of restoring the house, particularly the balcony which is already falling apart, and the trimming of the shrubbery, would not exceed P600.

Secretary Mutuc decided to visit the Shrine in the wake of persistent reports reaching him about its dilapidation.

The Executive Secretary's visit was so sudden that not one public official knew of his coming and in the whole town of Tanauan not more than four people knew that he had been there.

**July 12.**—THIS day President Macapagal plunged into the first of a series of conferences with President Ayub Khan of Pakistan. They discussed a wide range of subjects, from the campaign against communism to the domestic problems of fighting graft and corruption.

The President was accompanied by Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez, and Ambassador Jose Alejandrino during his conference with President Khan.

Reports reaching Manila this evening said that the conference dwelt extensively on the possibility of increasing trade relations between the two countries.

President Macapagal also visited the state security printing plant. The plant prints the nation's currency and stamps.

In the evening the President attended a citizen's reception given in his honor by the mayor of Karachi.

The President and members of his party are scheduled to take off tomorrow for Lahore, where he will receive a doctorate degree from the University of Punjab.

Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc acted today to fill a long-felt need of the Malacañang Legal Division when he ordered the acquisition of complete sets of law books for the office.

The Executive Secretary, in a surprise visit to the various offices under the Executive Department early this morning, also instructed division chiefs to submit monthly efficiency ratings for individual employees in order to: (1) discourage neglect and laxity which may cause heavy backlog of paper work; and (2) provide bases for prospective promotions to deserving employees in line with the policy followed under the merit system.

In his talk with the personnel of the Legal Division, the Executive Secretary impressed upon them the importance of decisions and opinions rendered by the legal-office, and the necessity of providing it with "the best tools available."

The Executive Secretary said that decisions made by the Malacañang Legal Division are precedent-setting and policy determining. He added that as a former private practitioner, he had a high respect for the wise decisions. "emanating from the Malacañang legal division,

Secretary Mutuc expressed surprise that despite the lack of books and reference materials, the legal division, which is as important to the Executive Department, as the Supreme Court is to the judiciary, could decide cases wisely and justly.

Secretary Mutuc told Juan Cancio, acting legal adviser to the President, to set up a complete set of law books for the division.

**July 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal flew to Lahore, Pakistan, for a two-day state visit and landed there at 2:10 p.m. today.

The Chief Executive took a Philippine Air Lines Viscount to Lahore. where he will receive a doctorate degree from the University of Punjab. With the President were the First Lady, their three children, and other members of the party.

They were met at the airport by Gov. Amir Mohamad Khan of West Pakistan. From the airport, they motored through the quiet streets of the provincial capital to the governor's house where the Macapagals will stay for the duration of the visit.

The President is scheduled to visit the famous Shallimar gardens and other historic attractions. He is scheduled to receive the honorary degree at the University of Punjab, tomorrow.

At a banquet tendered by President Ayub Khan the other night in Karachi, the President set aside his prepared speech and extemporized in paying tribute to his host, calling him "the leader not only of Pakistan but also of Asia."

This evening Gov. Khan of West Pakistan honored the visiting Philippine President at a citizen's reception at Lahore.

**July 14.**—TODAY President Macapagal received an honorary degree of doctor of laws from the Punjab University, the oldest university in West Pakistan. He received the honorary degree at 8:30 a.m. in Pakistan (12:30 p.m. Manila time).

It was the second award the President received during the course of his six-day state visit to Pakistan. He had received a presidential decoration from President Ayub Khan on the second day of his stay in Karachi.

Before going to the Punjab University, the President and the First Lady and their children, went on sight-seeing tour of West Pakistan.

At the famous centuries-old Shallimar Gardens in Lahore, the President delivered a speech and assured his listeners that the “Pakistani and the Filipino people shall henceforths work with strong hearts and willing hands to help fashion with the other peoples of like mind, a new Asia that is prosperous and free.”

His speech sounded an appeal to Pan-Asian and anti-colonialist feelings.

President Macapagal donned an embroidered “bush” shirt while Mrs. Macapagal wore a long gold and white gown with a high peaked sleeves and a pearl neck lace.

Reports said that the weather in Lahore was uncomfortably hot and humid for the outdoor ceremonies.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: July 15-21, 1962**

**July 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today flew to Rawalpindi, the new capital of West Pakistan, where he addressed the Pakistan national assembly. He was the first visiting Chief of State to address the national assembly since it was constituted.

President Ayub Khan, who accompanied the Philippine President in his visit to Rawalpindi was at the dais when President Macapagal addressed the assembly.

President Macapagal called for the formation of a Pan-Asian Organization to help small and under-developed nations.

The President arrived in Rawalpindi this morning and returned shortly before sundown for Karachi on the penultimate day of his six-day stay in Pakistan.

The President also conferred with government officials and exchanged views on the problems confronting both the Philippines and Pakistan.

He is scheduled to return to Manila from Karachi, to arrive in Manila at 4: 30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. He will give a press conference tomorrow in Karachi.

Before leaving Rawalpindi, President Ayub Khan will bid President Macapagal goodbye. The Pakistani President will stay behind at the new capital.

**July 16.**—HEAVY rains this day marred the last day of President Macapagal's stay in Pakistan and kept him indoors at the residence of President Mohammad Ayub Khan in Karachi.

The President returned to Karachi last evening from Rawalpindi, new capital of West Pakistan, where he addressed the Pakistan national assembly. He was the first visiting Chief Executive accorded the privilege of addressing the newly-organized assembly.

The President was originally scheduled to go to Korangi, a settlement for displaced persons from India. In cancelling his scheduled visit to the settlement, the President was informed that the roads became impossible on account of the heavy rains.

The President stayed at President Khan's residence where he rested while Mrs. Macapagal visited a charitable institution.

Gloria Macapagal, the President's 15-year-old daughter, also did her bit and visited a girls' school.

On account of the inclement weather, President Macapagal decided to postpone his scheduled departure this evening for Manila aboard a Philippine Air Lines Viscount. He will leave instead early tomorrow from Karachi aboard KLM jet airliner, which had been chartered to bring the President to Manila.

In changing his scheduled departure to Manila, the President was advised that the PAL Viscount, a four-engine turbo-jet plane, is slower and will need refueling in some airports.

Although he had changed the schedule of his departure, the President will arrive in Manila at the same time, at 4:30 tomorrow afternoon.



**July 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, visibly sun-tanned and with a slightly swollen jaws returned this afternoon amid strains of *Mabuhay* and *Maligayang Pagbabalik* from a 2,000-voice choir of the Centro Escolar University at the Manila International Airport.

Emerging from the huge KLM DC-8 jetliner, the President was all smiles he waved with the First Lady at the crowd which witnessed his return to the Philippines from a 19-day state visit to Spain, Pakistan and Italy.

Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova told newsmen that the President developed swollen jaws on account of the heat in Pakistan and the fatigue of his trip.

The President, dressed in *barong* Filipino and black pants, was met by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez and Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc. President Macapagal greeted the crowd as full military honors were being accorded him.

All the rime newly-promoted brigadier generals were on hand to see the return of their commander-in-chief.

After receiving full military honors, the President delivered a 15-mmute speech and announced his readiness to tackle the problems facing the country.

From the, airport, the President led a long motorcade and stopped near Nightclub Row on Dewey Boulevard in Pasay City where an orchestra struck jazzy strains of “Happy Days are Here Again.”

Upon his arrival in Malacañang, the President was felicitated by members of his Cabinet.

The President conferred with Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag, who brought up the question of his appearance before a Senate and a House committee which had summoned him to bare the alleged “secret payroll” of Harry. S. Stonehill, linking members of Congress and other high government officials.

**July 18.**—THIS morning President Macapagal reiterated his full confidence in Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag. He said he was giving Secretary Liwag a “free hand” in the handling of the deportation case against American businessman Harry Stonehill. He told the justice head not to spare anyone, “no matter who gets hurt.”

The Chief Executive met with Secretary Liwag at a breakfast conference this morning as he buckled to work after an 18-day trip abroad on state visits to Italy, Pakistan, and Spain. During the conference the President was appraised by Secretary Liwag of the status of the deportation proceedings against Stonehill. They also discussed other vital matters pertaining to the justice department including new appointments of judicial posts.

In the course of his busy morning schedule, the President also met with Central Bank Gov. Andres Castillo and Sugar Quota Administrator Conrado Manalansan.

Although this is the day when members of Congress could see the President without any previous appointment, the President decided to postpone to next week his meeting with members of the lawmaking body in order that he could go over state papers turned over to him upon his arrival last night. He went over these papers and attended to other urgent state matters in the afternoon.

President Macapagal accompanied today Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal, who purchased groceries in order that he could survey prices and explain the government’s program of increasing local production and the income of the people to solve the price problem and usher in prosperity.

Mrs. Macapagal bought locally-produced goods, like Darigold milk. Rose-pack sausages, Rosepack meatballs, and Marcel tuna from a small grocery on Blumentritt, in San Juan, Rizal.

The dealer, Francisco Velasco, informed the President that the price of rice had gone down but that the price of imported goods had risen. He said the people would be satisfied with the price situation if their income could be increased.

The President informed those around that this was the government's program, that is, to increase production and income goals. He said the trend of results in the government's program is favorable. He said the current problem is to help the masses during the transitional period in regard to prices. He also said that the Administration will ask for the cooperation of all concerned since his program is for the benefit of all.

Stressing that the government is prepared to use its authority in cases where necessary cooperation is not extended, he assured the people who gathered around him while the First Lady did her marketing, that their interests will be protected.

This evening the President announced the appointment of a former newspaperman Leoncio R. Parungao, Jr. as press secretary.

Parungao, former associate editor of the Chronicle Broadcasting Network and city editor of the defunct *People's News*, succeeds acting, Press Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, who has been appointed secretary of commerce and industry.

In announcing the appointment of Parungao, the President expressed confidence in the integrity and ability of the new appointee to tackle one of the most sensitive jobs in the Administration. He commended Parungao for his admirable handling of the Administration's press affairs during his absence.

The new press secretary is the youngest member of the President's Cabinet. Until his appointment as press secretary, he was public relations officer of the Central Bank on detail with the Malacañang Press Office as officer in charge. He was assigned to this post shortly before the Chief Executive left the country for state visits to Spain, Italy, and Pakistan.

The new press secretary is 31 years old. A journalism graduate from the Far Eastern University, Parungao started his newspaper career as a staff member of the *People's News*. This was in 1953. When the News ceased publication the following year, Parungao became press relations officer of the Philippine and Asian Jaycees.

**July 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met today with the Council of Leaders on his second working day since he returned from abroad, and the meeting turned out to be a historic one.

For the first time Nacionalista leaders led by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez attended the meeting which was held in an atmosphere of cordiality at Malacañang's state dining room. Other NP leaders present were Sens. Fernando Lopez and Cipriano Primicias and Rep. Daniel Z. Romualdez.

Attending on the Liberal side were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez; Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal; Sens. Ferdinand Marcos, Estanislao Fernandez, and Manuel P. Manahan; Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun; House Majority Leader Justiniano Montano; Assistant Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño; and Press Secretary Leoncio R. Parungao, Jr.

The historic meeting started at 12:30 p.m. and ended at 2:30 p.m., after bringing about an accord on specific measures designed to ease up the current transitory problem of rising prices of four vital imported commodities.

The NP leaders arrived at the Palace at the same time, Senate President Rodriguez, who led the NP representatives to the Council meet, warmly greeted the President. The conferees were all in smiles as they sat down for the luncheon which started the meeting.

President Macapagal and the Council of Leaders today agreed to map out immediately specific measures designed to ease up the current transitory problem of rising prices of four vital imported commodities; namely, canned meat, canned fish, milk, and medicine.

The President and members of the Council agreed that these four imported commodities are vital items in the consumer's daily budget, particularly those in the rural areas, and therefore need immediate solutions so that their prices could be kept within the reach of the common people. The historic meeting virtually forged a bipartisan approach to the country's economic problems.

In order to hasten the formulation of immediate plans to bring down the prices of the four vital imported items, the Council agreed to a proposal of the President on the creation of a seven-men technical committee which would study measures and recommendations of council members on how to stabilize prices of these commodities.

Sens. Rodriguez and Marcos submitted proposals which the Council members agreed to refer to this committee.

Members of the proposed technical group to be chairmanned by National Economic Council Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, will be top economic experts of the country who are non-politicians.

The council members unanimously agreed that the immediate plans to lower prices of these four imported items should be within the framework of President Macapagal's five-year socio-economic program which has been adopted by Congress and the NEC.

The President said he will rush the formation of the technical group and "will make them work day and night if necessary" in order to solve the problem of prices of imported prime commodities.

On the special session, the Council members agreed to hold in abeyance any decision on this matter until after the technical committee had submitted its recommendations. The calling of a special meet will depend on whether the recommendations would need legislative action.

The President issued today a proclamation declaring Monday, July 23, this year, as a special public holiday in Batangas and Lipa City in commemoration of the 98th birthday anniversary of the national hero, Apolinario Mabini.

The President proclaimed the special holiday in view of the desire of the people of Batangas to be given ample opportunity to celebrate the birthday of the Sublime Paralytic.

Mabini, one of the nation's greatest patriots, was born in Tanauan, Batangas, on July 23, 1864.

Earlier this morning the President administered the oath of office to newly-appointed Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao Jr., at his study room in Malacañang.

The oath-taking ceremony of Paruñgao, a former newsman who succeeds Rufino G. Hechanova as Malacañang spokesman, was witnessed by Mrs. Macapagal, Mrs. Ezperanza Paruñgao, wife of the appointee, their two children, Evelyn and Corina, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta Jr., Palace Legal Adviser Hermenegildo Atienza, Assistant Executive Secretaries Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., Estanislao Bernal, and Fructuoso Nunag, Paruñgao's father-in-law.

Also present were members of the Malacañang Newsmen's Association, other newsmen friends of the new Press Secretary, and officials and employees of the Malacañang Press Office.

**July 20.**—THE President held today another round of conferences with key officials of the Administration as he continued to tackle pending state matters on his third working day since his arrival from state visits abroad.

The President started his morning schedule with a breakfast conference with Vice-President and concurrently Security of Foreign Affairs Emmanuel Pelaez. They discussed matters affecting the Philippine foreign service and other foreign affairs problems.

Also present at the conference which started at 8: 30 a.m. and wound up shortly before 10 were Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez and Minister Romeo Bosuego, counselor on political affairs of the foreign office.

After this conference the President met with Atomic Energy Commissioner Florencio Medina and Civil Defense Administrator Alfredo Eugenio.

The Chief Executive then conferred with Health Secretary Francisco Duque. They discussed measures designed to keep the price of vital drugs within the reach of the masses.

In the afternoon the President held his first press conference since his arrival last Tuesday from state visits to Spain, Italy, the Vatican and Pakistan.

The President took a hand today in the city's recurrent flood problem when he authorized the release of P1.1 million from the funds of the national government to help the Manila city government stop once and for all the floods which had plagued Manila for years.

The President approved the release of national government funds for the project after securing from Mayor Antonio J. Villegas an assurance that the city government will put up P500,000 as its counterpart expenditure.

The Chief Executive met with Villegas, Public Works Secretary Brigidio U. Valencia, City Engineer Ladislao Tolentino, and Acting Public Works Director Agapito Alano this evening in the wake of reports, of the undue inconvenience being suffered by city residents as a result of the floods.

He expressed deep concern over these reports and called for a meeting with the officials concerned about the problem following his regular press conference.

In his meeting with the four officials the President directed them to finalize a long-range master plan designed to prevent the recurrence of floods in the city.

Mayor Villegas sought the President's help for the release of national government funds to finance a long-range flood control project, and the Chief Executive heartily acceded to the city mayor's request. The President emphasized, however, that the plan to be drawn should be a long-range plan in order that it would insure the complete and final solution of the problem. He said the government was always ready to allocate funds for the project until it is completed.

President Macapagal acted today to bring about a speedy solution to the nation's immediate problems, including the problems of reducing the prices of vital imported commodities, when he named an outstanding educator, two private banking and financial experts, and his three top economic advisers to the technical committee which will draw up proposals and recommendations to solve the country's problems.

Creation of the committee, which is non-political in nature and in composition, was agreed upon by the Council of Leaders at its meeting yesterday.

Cornelio Balmaceda, chairman of the National Economic Council, was named yesterday to head the committee by the Council of Leaders, and today the President picked the following as members:

1. Secretary of Commerce and Industry Rufino G. Hechanova;
2. Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo;

3. Bienvenido Dizon, president of the Philippine National Bank;

4 Eduardo Romualdez, former president of the PNB;

5. Gregorio Licaros, former governor of the Development Bank of the Philippines; and

6. Rev. Fr. Francisco Araneta, president of Ateneo University

**July 21.**—THE Chief Executive spent a quiet but busy day today. He closeted himself in his study room at Malacañang and spent the whole day going over state papers turned over to him upon his arrival last Tuesday from state visits to Spain, Italy, and Pakistan.

The President made several phone calls to certain officials to get the views on state matters which he was studying and which necessitated consultations with the officials concerned.

In the evening the Chief Executive worked on the drafts of his radio-TV chat which he will deliver from 7 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday and of the speech which he will deliver on the same day on the occasion of the 49th anniversary of the Philippine National Bank.

The President's radio-TV chat will be televised over Channels 5, 7, 9, 10 11 and 13 and broadcast over radio stations DZFM, DZQL, DZAS, and DZRH. It will be rebroadcast by DZBB at 10 p.m. and by DZMT at 10:05 p.m.

President Macapagal ordered today the speedy organization of the Rural Electrification Administration to pave the way for the implementation of the rural industrial development program of the Administration as set down in the five-year socio-economic program.

The Chief Executive issued the directive to Public Works Secretary Brigido U. Valencia and Filemon Zablan, chairman of the National Power Corporation.

As the President had pointed out in a talk with newsmen in Iligan City, the establishment of the REA is designed to provide cheap power for budding industrial development projects situated in the rural areas.

In his directive to Valencia and Zablan, the President emphasized the need for the speedy organization of the REA in the face of developments in the Administration's socio-economic program.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58 (30), cclxxxix-ccxciv.

## President's Week in Review: July 22-28, 1962

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**July 22.**—THIS morning President Macapagal motored out of Malacañang to survey the floods caused by typhoon *Kate* and the heavy rains which have poured for several days.

Accompanied by Mrs. Macapagal, the President left Malacañang at 9 a.m. and proceeded to Bulacan, Rizal, and his home province, Pampanga. He travelled through flooded roads.

The President and the First Lady were met at the Rizal-Bulacan border by Gov. Tomas Martin, who appraised the Chief Executive of the extent of the damage wrought by heavy rains and the floods.

The Bulacan governor asked the President for trucks to deliver the relief goods from the Social Welfare Administration and from the Philippine National Red Cross.

The President promised Martin he will refer his request to Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc.

In San Matias, San Fernando, the President was met by Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno. As it was about lunch time, the President and the First Lady were invited by the governor to his residence in Angeles.

With the aid of a map, Gov. Nepomuceno showed the President the heavily flooded areas in Pampanga.

After lunch at the governor's residence, the President toured Pampanga towns, passing through Sta. Rita, Guagua, Bacolor, and Lubao, the President's hometown.

After viewing the river control project in barrio Sta. Cruz, the President motored back to Manila, arriving at Malacañang at about 4:40 o'clock this afternoon.

**July 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led the nation today in honoring Apolinario Mabini on the occasion of the 98th birthday anniversary of the national hero.

The President drove to Nagtahan this afternoon and paid homage at the former residence which had become a national shrine. Accompanied by Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal, the President was received by Antonio and Egmidio Mabini, nephews, and Moises and Reynaldo Delarmente, grandsons, of the national hero.

Reynaldo Delarmente, caretaker of the house where the first secretary of foreign affairs had spent his last hours, showed the President and the First Lady through the different rooms of the house. The President read a copy of Mabini's *Decalogue* which hang on the wall of the sala. He also greeted a one-year old great-granddaughter of Mabini, Belinda Delarmente.

The Chief Executive had previously proclaimed today as a special public holiday in Batangas and Lipa City. The "Sublime Paralytic" was born in Tanauan, Batangas, 98 years ago.

Earlier this morning the President conferred with Gov. Melanio Singson of Isabela on his projected trip to the province tomorrow.

In the evening the President reported to the nation on the significance of his 17-day state visits to Spain, Italy, the Vatican, and Pakistan, in his fifth radio-television message entitled, "President Macapagal Speaks to the People."

After the radio-TV chat the President motored to the Manila Hotel, where he spoke at a dinner given in commemoration of the 46th anniversary of the foundation of the Philippine National Bank.

Speaking extemporaneously, the President congratulated the PNB officials and employees on the occasion of the observance by the national banking institution of another milestone in its long history of service to the nation. He said that with the transition of the country's economy from controls to free enterprise there has come about a greater need for the formulation and implementation of monetary and credit policies that will guide the country's economic destiny.

And in the formulation and direction of these policies, the President said, the PNB had played an active participation and had acquitted itself creditably. He then reiterated his faith and confidence in the ability of the men managing the national banking institution to make the PNB always responsive to the challenge of the times.

The President was met upon his arrival at the Manila Hotel by top-ranking officials of the PNB led by Silvestre M. Punzalan, chairman of the board, and PNB President Bienvenido Dizon.

**July 24.**—THE President viewed today the Friendship 7 space capsule which carried astronaut John H. Glenn in his historic orbital flight into space. The President headed ranking government officials and foreign diplomats who inspected the space capsule on its last day of showing at the National Science Development Board grounds on Herran Street.

Earlier the President, accompanied by the First Lady and their children, Gloria and Diosdado, Jr., attended a special movie at the science pavilion showing Glenn's historical tri-orbital flight.

Seated beside the President and the First Lady were Prince Juan Carlos, crown prince of Spain, and his bride, Princess Sophie of Greece.

Kenneth Kleinknecht, manager of the Man In Space Program in Houston, Texas, explained to the President the different parts of the capsule and presented to him a miniature plastic replica and gold astronaut pin.

NSDB Chairman Juan Salcedo, Jr., and the United States Ambassador William E. Stevenson received the President.

Earlier this day the Chief Executive met briefly with Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez and Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

The President was scheduled to leave this morning for Santiago, Isabela, but he decided to postpone the trip in view of inclement weather. The President's trip to Isabela was to have been in furtherance of his policy of regionalizing Malacañang and bringing the government closer to the people.

Following his meeting with Pelaez and Hechanova, the Chief Executive went over state papers and began working on the draft of the speech which he will deliver on Saturday, July 28, before officials and employees of the Shell Company of the Philippines,

**July 25.**—THIS morning the President received members of Congress who took up with him local matters, particularly the effects of typhoon Kate on their localities. They also asked the Chief Executive for relief goods and public works funds for the repair of damaged roads and public buildings.

Members of Congress who called this morning were Antonio Raquiza, Floro Crisologo, Manuel Cases, Jose Alberto, Eduardo Cajuanco, Jr., Ramon Durano, Vicencio Sagum, Felipe Abrigo, Pablo Sanidad, Godofredo Ramos, Emilio Cortez, Eladio Caliwara, Pedro Trono, Primitivo Sato, Primo Villasin, Eladio Balite, and Tereso Dumon.

Before receiving the congressmen, the President conferred with OEC Administrator Manuel Cuenco and former Rep. Marcos Calo, NDC chairman, on the problems of their respective offices.

President Macapagal tendered today a luncheon in Malacañang in honor of Spain's Crown Prince Don Juan Carlos and his bride, Princess Sophie of Greece.

The royal couple arrived in Manila last Sunday from Hongkong in the course of their around-the-world honeymoon tour. They arrived in Malacañang with Spanish Ambassador Jaime Alba.

President Macapagal authorized this evening the release of P5 million from his calamity fund for the immediate implementation of an effective long-range flood control program for the rich rice-producing region of Central Luzon.

The President directed Public Works Secretary Brigido U. Valencia to avail of this fund and to map out immediately a flood control project and other stop-gap measures designed to prevent the recurrence of floods in the region. He expressed serious concern over the heavy damage being suffered by Central Luzon annually as a result of floods.

Earlier, the President approved the release of P300,000 for the initial needs of the flood sufferers in the provinces of Bulacan, Tarlac, Rizal, and Pampanga. Out of this amount, P100,000 was earmarked by the Chief Executive for the purchase of rice for distribution to the flood victims, while P200,000 will be used for the purchase of dried fish, canned goods, and other needs of the flood sufferers.

The President acted on recommendation of Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc, who in turn based his recommendation on figures supplied by survey teams of the PC and the Army as to the actual initial needs of the flood victims.

Secretary Mutuc was ordered by the President to make an aerial survey of the flooded areas. The Executive Secretary went by helicopter and on his return to Malacañang early last night reported that the flood situation was well in hand.

Landing in a remote barrio in Cabiao, Nueva Ecija, Secretary Mutuc was assured by the barrio people and the Philippine Constabulary detachment commander that prices had not gone up, and that the retailers are extending full cooperation to them.

The Executive Secretary also observed no serious disruption in the transportation system, as passengers and commodities continued to flow smoothly towards population centers.

Secretary Mutuc said he will wait for the complete reports of the Philippine Constabulary in every province hit by the floods before convening the Relief and Rehabilitation Committee.

Before leaving Malacañang early in the afternoon, Secretary Mutuc received two cases of drugs and medicines for the flood victims from the Student Philippine Medical Association.

Secretary Mutuc was accompanied in his survey by Brig. Gen. Jonas Victoria, chief of the Philippine Air Force; Capt. Lopez de Leon, operations officer of Task Force Kate; and a three-man paramedic team on another copter.

**July 26.**—IN the course of his busy, full-day schedule today, the President had a breakfast conference with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal on legislative matters.

After the breakfast conference with the Speaker, the Chief Executive received Gov. Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, who consulted him on problems affecting the province.

Other provincial executives who conferred with the President were Gov. Claro Robles of Quezon, Gov. Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, and Mayor Camilo Cabili of Iligan City.

About noon the Chief Executive conferred briefly with Agriculture Undersecretary Eugenio Piczon, Director Mateo Pecson of the Bureau of Forestry, and Ramon Diaz, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System.



President Macapagal received this afternoon the credentials of Manuel Nunes da Silva, ambassador of Portugal to the Philippines, at a glittering ceremony held at Malacañang's ceremonial hall.

Silva was until his elevation to the rank of ambassador, minister plenipotentiary of Portugal to the Philippines.

Full military honors were tendered to the Portuguese ambassador by the Presidential Guard Battalion upon his arrival at the Palace grounds for the ceremony. He was fetched from his residence in Manila by an official of the foreign office. Upon his arrival at the Palace Ambassador Da Silva was escorted to the ceremonial hall by the President's military.

Top ranking officials of the government, including Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez and other Cabinet members, attended the ceremonies.

After the presentation of credentials of Ambassador Nunes, the President met with Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga and Chairman Pablo Lorenzo of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

Malacañang declared this evening that President Macapagal is not supporting any ticket or any particular candidate in the forthcoming election of officers of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Parungao, Jr., said "It would be unthinkable for the President to express any preference for any particular ticket or candidate in an election which is purely the affair of members of the PCC."

Considering the President's stand on free enterprise and his desire to free businessmen from the shackles of political pressure, Parungao said "any candidate in the PCC elections who claims to be a candidate of Malacañang is talking through his hat."

**July 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met today with Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary Emmanuel Pelaez on matters affecting the country's foreign affairs.

Also present during the conference were Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez, Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, chairman of the foreign relations committee of the Senate, and Rep. Godofredo Ramos, chairman of the foreign relations committee of the House of Representatives.

Prior to meeting with the foreign relations officials of the government the President received India's Ambassador Shri Sankar Nath Maitra, who called to bid farewell to the Chief Executive. The Indian Ambassador is leaving for New Delhi on July 29.

The President also conferred with NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda and Customs Commissioner Cesar Climaco.

In the afternoon the President held his regular weekly press conference.

President Macapagal today proposed the organization of a greater Malayan Confederation which he predicted would be a power force for freedom, progress, and peace not only in Asia but throughout the world.

The President bared this proposal in a prepared statement which he read at his regular press conference. He said the Confederation would be bigger in scope than the Federation of Malaysia proposed by Malayan Premier Tunka Abdul Rahman. It is also different from the Pan Asian Union which he proposed in Pakistan during the course of his state visit and the Association of Southeast Asia (ASA).

He disclosed that this plan is an effort to debunk claims that the Philippine claim of ownership and sovereignty over "North Borneo" was an attempt to sabotage the efforts of those who had proposed the establishment of the Federation of Malaysia.

The Chief Executive said that the Confederation could be started by the federation of the following Malayan states: the Federation of Malaya, Philippines, Singapore, Sarawak, Brunei, and North Borneo. He said these countries would form the nucleus of the Confederation, and other states which maybe interested may join the aggrupation later.

“In this way,” he said, “the great arc of islands consisting of the Philippine archipelago, North Borneo, Singapore, and the Malay peninsula would form a formidable geographical, cultural, economic, and political unity that would be a power force for freedom, progress, and peace not only in Asia but in the world.”

The President said he had directed Vice-President Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs to draft the necessary diplomatic notes embodying his proposal to the different states.

He pointed out that his formal proposal for a greater Malayan Confederation is a “decisive proof against the sophistry and deception of those who would accuse us of trying to sabotage the unity of Malaysia.

Touching on the Philippine claim over North Borneo, the President said that his administration is pursuing its bid by peaceful means in accordance with the charter of the United Nations.

He said the Philippines will never employ other measures than those sanctioned by the charter. He ruled out the possibility of establishment of PI claims through the use of force.

However, the President told newsmen, the British government has not up to this day, replied to the Philippine note laying claims over North Borneo.

President Macapagal assured all government employees today that his administration is dedicated to the strengthening of the civil service through the revival of the merit system. He gave this assurance through Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc who represented him as main speaker at the 15th annual convention of the Philippine Government Employees Association at the science hall of the Philippine General Hospital on Taft Avenue.

In conveying the President’s message. Secretary Mutuc said that the next three years will be “punctuated by decisive and significant decisions to return the merit system in the civil service and put the mantle of protection on the employees against the corrosive influence and pressure of politicians.”

The Executive Secretary said the President is determined to strengthen the civil service system.

Secretary Mutuc pointed out that the President’s obsession to give the poor wage earners a better and fuller life was manifested in his decision to give the low-salaried employees more salary increases than those already receiving high salaries.

**July 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal hailed today the establishment of the P65 million Shell refinery in barrio Tabangao, Batangas, Batangas, as a new milestone in the country’s industrialization and a ”monument to the international spirit of *bayanihan* or cooperation.”

The President paid tribute to Shell in a speech which highlighted this noon the inauguration of the Shell refinery in the coastal town of Tabangao. In his speech the Chief Executive said “the Philippine Government is happy to receive this company as a sincere and faithful ally.”

“We know that in helping assure the prosperity and progress of the Philippines, in seeking to work as it has done with Filipinos as partners, in striving to make full and wise use of the countrys’ natural resources, this company will continue to enjoy both reciprocal good feeling and satisfactory profit for itself,” he said.

The President was introduced by Richard A. Meyjes, president of the Shell Refining and the Shell Company of the Philippines. In his brief remarks, the Shell top officials took the occasion to praise the President’s socio-economic

development program and its transition of the economy from a controlled economy to free enterprise. Meyjes said the business community in the Philippines viewed the President's economic moves as "most encouraging."

Meyjes presented to the President gift of 30 scholarships for chemistry teachers "in recognition of his dedication to the welfare and development of the country."

Before delivering his speech, the President headed government and business leaders in a tour of the refinery site. Among those in the President's group were British Ambassador John Pilcher, NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, Press Secretary Leoncio Paruñgao, Jr., Sen. Francisco Rodrigo, Batangas Gov. Feliciano Leviste, Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, J. F. Sinclair, and Dr. H. Hoog of Shell Company. They were briefed by Shell personnel on the operations of each unit of the plant in the processing of crude oil into gasoline and other oil products during the tour.

Shortly upon arrival at the refinery site, Mrs. Macapagal officiated at the ribbon-cutting ceremony inaugurating the plant. She was assisted by Mrs. W. G. Eddleman and Mrs. R. A. Meyjes.

The President and the First Lady, together with their daughter Gloria, left Malacañang at about 8 o'clock this morning. They were met by Gov. Leviste at the boundary of Laguna and Batangas.

After the inauguration ceremonies, the President and his party had lunch at the plant's canteen where a program was also held featuring Philippine folk dancing.

After the luncheon the President proceeded to barrio San Isidro nearby which is a new community where families formerly residing at the refinery site were relocated. The barrio boasts of rural improvements through the help of the Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement.

Carrying on with his program of bringing the government closer to the people, the President explained to the barrio residents his program of administration and appealed for understanding and support in his effort to uplift the lot of the common man.

In the course of his visit to the barrio, the President went to the PRRM nursery shed and, in spite of a drizzle, saw seedling being distributed to the barrio people.

The President left for Manila at about 3 p.m., arriving in Malacañang at past 5 o'clock.

President Macapagal ordered this evening all relief and rehabilitation agencies of the government to step up and keep on pouring all the possible-assistance to the flood victims in Bulacan, Tarlac, Rizal, and Pampanga.

The President issued the directive to the Social Welfare Administration and the Department of National Defense as he followed up all-out efforts of the government to alleviate the situation of the people affected by the floods that hit the four provinces.

He called on Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and Social Welfare Administrator Tecla Ziga not to spare any effort in helping the flood sufferers and assured them of continued support in their task of attending to the immediate needs of the flood victims.

The President emphasized that no task is big enough for the government to accomplish and that the Administration will never be wanting in its efforts to alleviate the plight of the unfortunate victims of the flood in Central Luzon.

Earlier today, in keeping with his determination to extend all possible relief and rehabilitation aid to the flood victims, the Chief Executive ordered Executive Secretary Amelito R. Mutuc to inform Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova of the latter's appointment as chairman to the sub-committee on rehabilitation.

As created by the President, the sub-committee is entrusted with the task of implementing his directive for the material reconstruction of the regions devastated, by the flood and the economic rehabilitation of the flood victims.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: July 26-31, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

#### ***July 25—***

PRESIDENT MARCOS continued to concentrate on the preparations for the visit of United States President Richard M. Nixon and Mrs. Nixon, cancelling therefore once again his schedule of private callers.

He focused on the study of papers and reports relating to the visit, and to briefing documents on the likely topics he and President Nixon might take up during their two private meetings.

He also met with the officials involved in the preparations, notably the members of the special committee on the visit, including Secretary of Foreign Affairs Carlos P. Romulo, chairman of the group.

He consulted at various times during the day with Acting Executive Secretary Ernesto M. Maceda, Press Secretary Jose D. Aspiras, and Assistant Press Secretary Jacobo C. Clave, among others.

He continued through the day to focus, however, on the papers provided for his study.

#### ***July 26—***

PRESIDENT MARCOS and the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, led the red carpet welcome to visiting United States President Richard M. Nixon and Mrs. Nixon.

In his welcome remarks at the airport ceremonies, President Marcos expressed the hope that the visit would provide an opportunity for him and President Nixon to discuss the outstanding issues affecting the two countries' relations, as well as the problems of Southeast Asia.

The President said he hoped that out of the discussions "a new consensus could be achieved, based on a dignified and self-respecting mutual regard for each other."

The President also expressed hope that the U.S. Chief Executive came not only to reinforce the traditional guarantees binding the two countries, but to proffer new gifts that science can bring to mankind.

"We are certain," he said, "that you come to forge in the smithies of the world, because of your courage, your vision, your statesmanship, a brilliant new role for America, and history will remember you as its wise and far-seeing architect."

The President also paid tribute to the great feat of American technology in putting the first man on the moon, adding that this brilliant triumph should be the springboard for a more vigorous attack on the problems of human misery and unhappiness everywhere.

In his remarks, President Nixon said that he was on a mission of peace—peace in the Pacific, peace in Asia and peace in the world.

However, he emphasized that although the United States will play its part, peace in Asia must come from the peoples and governments of Asia, through cooperation, economic, political and otherwise.

Commenting on Philippine-U.S. relations, President Nixon said the special relations between the two countries antedate American relations with other Asian nations and the American people were closer to the Filipino people than to any other Asian people.

Recognizing that these relations are sometimes strained by a variety of reasons, the U.S. President pointed out that even-among the closest of friends, strained relations often occur.

On this basis, the American President said, a new era in Philippine-American relations should begin, founded not on the old special relations which had already been swept away “by the winds of change” but based on mutual trust, mutual respect, mutual confidence and mutual cooperation.

President Nixon said that his trip to Asia is being made so that he can seek the counsel of Asian leaders on important problems facing the world.

He stressed that he would like to talk especially about the future of Asia after the Vietnam war has ended.

Manila, the first important stop on his important journey, he said, is also the first Asian capital he has visited as President of the United States.

He wanted to convey, he said, the great sense of respect and affection which the people of the United States feel for their Asian neighbors and the readiness of his country to support the efforts of the Asian nations to improve the life of their peoples.

He pointed out, however, that peace and progress in Asia must be shaped and protected primarily by Asian hands and that the contribution and what “my country can make to that process should come as a supplement to Asian energies and in response to Asian leadership.”

President and Mrs. Marcos arrived at the airport at 11:20 a.m. the President received full military honors including a 21-gun salute.

About 12:35 p.m., the plane bearing President Nixon and his party, and preceded by two jet fighter planes of the U.S. Air Force, touched down at the Manila International Airport.

The members of the Nixon party include: Secretary of State and Mrs. William P. Rogers, Ambassador Emil Mosbacher, Jr., chief of protocol; Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, special assistant to the President and Marshall Green, assistant secretary of state.

A long and resounding applause greeted President and Mrs. Nixon as they appeared at the door of the presidential plane, while Philippine officialdom, led by President and Mrs. Marcos waited at the foot of the plane ramp.

Among the ranking officials who welcomed President Nixon and his party were: Vice President Fernando Lopez, who came with Mrs. Lopez; Senate President Gil J. Puyat; Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., who was with Mrs. Laurel; Chief Justice Roberto Concepcion, also with Mrs. Concepcion; Secretary of Foreign Affairs Carlos P. Romulo, who was with Mrs. Mariles Romulo; Philippine Ambassador to Washington Ernesto V. Lagdameo, who was accompanied by Mrs. Lagdameo.

The President then presented the members of his official family to the U.S. President, and then accompanied him to the reviewing stand to receive military honors. A composite battalion of the four major services of the armed forces, the Philippine Army, Philippine Navy, Philippine Air Force and Philippine Constabulary, then passed in review.

As the U.S.: First Couple and President and Mrs. Marcos stood at attention, the Star Spangled Banner was played while, an artillery battery boomed a 21-gun salute.

The two Presidents then trooped the line.

President Nixon later passed down the reception line shaking hands, for about 25 minutes. He then ascended the platform where the President bade formal welcome in brief remarks. President Nixon gave his response afterward.

A large and enthusiastic crowd turned out despite the uncertain weather.

Many in the crowd carried streamers and posters, some congratulating the American people for the lunar landing, while others expressed cordial welcome to the visiting American First Couple.

The route from the airport to Malacañang was lined with people three abreast in some places, and the miniature flags, posters and welcome arches along the road gave a festive atmosphere.

So touched was the American Chief Executive by the warm and spontaneous welcome that he alighted from the open presidential car to greet and shake hands with the people lining the streets. President Marcos did the same. This gesture delayed- the timetable of the motorcade by almost half an hour.

The motorcade arrived at the Malacañang gate at exactly 2:35.p.m.

Evocative of his feelings were the words President Nixon wrote in the Malacañang guest book, "A great welcome."

At 3:30 p.m., President Marcos and President Nixon closeted themselves in the first of their two scheduled talks in Malacañang. Their talk which lasted up to 5 p.m., was marked by total candor and trust.

The two Presidents discussed a wide, range of subjects of common interest to the Philippines and the United States. Bilateral problems, including economic and trade as well as defense-and security matters were threshed out at policy level.

They also exchanged views on recent developments in Vietnam. Specifically, the heads of state discussed United States plans in Vietnam.

In the evening, the President and the First Lady tendered a state dinner in honor of President and Mrs. Nixon.

### ***July 27—***

PRESIDENT MARCOS met with President Richard M. Nixon of the United States in the morning, and attended the national directorate meeting of the Nacionalista Party in the afternoon.

President Marcos and President Nixon met for about 45 minutes starting at 9 a.m. They first talked yesterday for one and a half hours shortly after the US President arrived at Malacañang, accompanied by Mrs. Pat Nixon, for a 23-hour visit here.

The two First Couples also had brief meetings in the morning at the Malacañang suite where President and Mrs. Nixon were quartered as guests, and at about 10:15 a.m. they left together for the Manila International Airport.

President and Mrs. Marcos, led government dignitaries and heads of diplomatic missions here in giving a warm sendoff for President and Mrs. Nixon who left 11:20 a.m.

Back at Malacañang, the President received a team of media men from the CBS Radio and Television firm of the U.S. who called for an, interview.

Late in the afternoon, the President motored to the Manila Hotel, where he attended the national directorate meeting of the Nacionalista Party, which met to choose the eight candidates of the party for the Senate in the coming elections.

### ***July 28—***

PRESIDENT MARCOS started his workday with a meeting with the NP national directorate during which he mobilized the leaders of the party for the national poll campaign ahead, after which he met the regional and lower level NP chieftains to discuss current problems and if possible provide immediate solutions.

The extended meeting, which was a follow-up of the meeting the previous day to finalize the NP senatorial line-up, ended way past noon. From this conference, the President had a late lunch, then rested briefly.

First thing in the afternoon, the President inducted Executive Secretary Ernesto M. Maceda, at an impressive ceremony in Malacañang, attended by well-wishers of the concurrent PACD chief, who included a number of governors, mayors, senators and representatives. Also present were relatives and admirers.

The President afterward signed the rural electrification bill, at a simple ceremony attended by Senator Emmanuel Pelaez, author of the bill, as well as by other Congress leaders who had worked for the passage of the measure.

Among those at the signing rite were Senators Jose Roy and Lorenzo Teves; House Majority Floorleader Marcelino Veloso, Reps. Lamberto Macias, Angel Concepcion and Ali Dimaporo; Governors Mariano Per-dices of Negros Oriental and Tito Primicias of Pangasinan.

In-between these activities and meeting other callers, the President put in some desk work. Among others, he signed the *ad interim* appointment of Eugenio La Rosa as deputy auditor General; and the designations of Rep. Andres Clemente as acting undersecretary of education and of Mariano Dy Reyes as acting undersecretary of public works. Both posts have been vacant for sometime.

The President worked on state papers the rest of the afternoon and in early evening.

#### ***July 29—***

PRESIDENT MARCOS had a crowded schedule, including induction of the new deputy auditor general, the signing of the bill upgrading Manila's market system, receiving the outgoing Indonesian ambassador, and conferring on two PGH physicians the Bronze Cross for their heroic wartime services.

The President also received provincial delegations headed by their respective governors and congressmen who consulted him on infrastructure projects in their localities.

In a simple ceremony, the President inducted Eugenio P. La Rosa, auditor of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration, as deputy auditor general. La Rosa succeeds retired Deputy Auditor General Jesus Iriarte.

The President, and a large congregation of market vendors, signed into law Senate Bill No. 1191 which amends the city charter of Manila with the objective of meeting the need for upgrading the city's public markets by providing the market administration with a regular source of funds and setting up a committee to plan and execute, improvements in the-market system.

Shortly before noon, the President received Major General Moersjid, Indonesian envoy to the Philippines, who called to say goodbye. The Indon ambassador is scheduled to return to Jakarta early next month for reassignment after completing his tour of duty in this country.

Presented with the Bronze Cross in ceremonies held at Malacañang early in the afternoon were Dr. Agerico B. M. Sison and Dr. Florentine Herrera, Jr. who, as chief of medical services and assistant resident physician of the Philippine General Hospital during the occupation, attended to ailing guerrillas despite the threat from the enemy.

Among such guerrillas, the accompanying citation read, was then Major Ferdinand E. Marcos, organizer and leader of "Ang Mga Maharlika" guerrillas, whom they hid from the dreaded Japanese Kempetai, treated him for malaria and subsequently engineered his escape on August 27, 1944.



The President received provincial callers until 3 p.m.

*July 30—*

PRESIDENT MARCOS again took in stride a crowded schedule, as callers with all kinds of problems converged on Malacañang, while in-between he attended to official paper work and other state business.

The President in the morning met, first, with barrio captains from Cavite province, who were accompanied by Commerce Undersecretary Fernando Campos, former Gov. Dominador Camerino and Mrs. Myrna Santiago, NP provincial chairman.

He discussed with the barrio officials problems in connection with development projects in their localities. These included the need for more irrigation facilities, seawalls along the coast of Rosario town, and the establishment of a sugar central in the province.

He also, told the barrio captains that he had released ₱250,000 to make good the balance of the government subscription to the insurance coverage of barrio captains: and councilmen.

Under this law, Republic Act No. 4898, every barrio captain and councilman, while in office, is automatically covered by life, disability and accident insurance policies. The life of a barrio captain is insured for ₱5000, while that of a councilman is insured for ₱3000.

Also present at the meeting were Executive Secretary Ernesto M. Maceda, Senators Arturo Tolentino and Helena Benitez.

While busy with this meeting, the President was pleasantly interrupted by the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, who brought with her Miss Gloria Diaz, the 1969 Miss Universe. The Philippine beauty called to pay her courtesies, hours after returning from Miami Beach, where she reaped honors for her country.

Later, the President went to the Malacañang grounds, where he met with some 2000 student demonstrators from state colleges and universities.

The President told the demonstrators he had actually implemented already some of: their major demands.

Back at the Palace about 1 p.m., the President received division chiefs and other personnel of the Bureau of Customs who are participating in a five-day seminar on increased tax V collection through better management.

Headed by Commissioner Rolando Geotina, the customs personnel were congratulated by the President for the increase in their collections in the past few years. The President reassured them of his continued support “as long as you observe the standards of morality set for public servants.”

The President received provincial delegations until 4 p.m.

Early in the evening, while working on state papers, the President:

1. Signed into law Senate Bill 970, passed in the last special session of Congress, which amends certain sections of the Civil Service Act of 1959 to strengthen the Civil Service Commission such that the merit system will be fortified and the integrity of the civil service upheld.

The bill, authored by Senator Arturo Tolentino, was signed by the President in the presence of the author of the bill and a large group who supported its approval in Congress.

2. Signed a bill providing for the conversion of educational institutions from stock corporations into non-profit foundations to upgrade their standards and the same time reduce the high cost of education.

In signing the measures, authored by Senator Tolentino, the President pointed out that the greatest instrument of economic progress is education and therefore should be made an integral part of the government's socio-economic program.

3. Approved the promotion of 10 reserve and two regular officers of the Judge Advocate General's Service, and the commissioning of 108 eligibles in the reserve force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Meanwhile, the President, in a video tape-recorded speech delivered as guest of honor at the 4th anniversary program of the television show "Let's Talk Business," held at Hotel Intercontinental, enlarged on the administration's strategy of development, pointing out that as a result of this program the country is "well on the way to establishing domestic manufacture" as opposed to the essentially extractive nature of the economy in the past.

He stressed that this transformation has led to the "flowering of the-nationalist spirit" and that with the new tempo of economic life, the nation will soon "experience independence in its real and complete sense."

### ***July 31—***

PRESIDENT MARCOS started the day by rising early for the flight to Tagbilaran City. From Nichols Air Base, the President lifted off in the presidential plane with a small party of officials.

In the group were Senator Jose W. Diokno, CNI Commissioner Mamintal Tamano, Public Works Secretary Rene Espina, Iloilo Gov. Rafael Palmares, Senator Ambrosio Padilla and Zambales Gov. Vicente Magsaysay.

The President had made a last minute change in his schedule in order to stop at Dumaguete City, where officials had requested him to inaugurate several local development and infrastructure projects.

Arriving at about 10:15 a.m. in Dumaguete, the President was pleasantly surprised to find a big throng giving him welcome. Leading the welcomes were Gov. Mariano Perdiges, Dumaguete City Mayor Jose Pro. Teves, Senator Lorenzo Teves, and former Senator Manuel Briones; and other national, provincial, city and local officials.

Making the rounds of the completed projects swiftly, the President went through the inaugural rites smoothly, congratulating all those responsible for a job well done.

In Dumaguete, the President was joined by the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, who flew in 30 minutes after the arrival of the presidential party. The whole group had lunch in Dumaguete before boarding the *RPS 777*, which had come ahead.

The Navy boat ferrying the President and the First Lady to Bohol left port at about 2:30 p.m.

The uneventful voyage ended at Tagbilaran City in the early evening, with the President heading immediately for the site of the big rally after acknowledging the warm welcome given him and the First Lady by a huge crowd.

At the rally, the President proclaimed the eight-man NP senatorial ticket. He was enthusiastically applauded by a spirited crowd during a fighting speech which contrasted the weakness of the opposition, both in organization and platform, with the administration party. The President also pledged a vigorous campaign and a continuing thrust by the administration toward rapid development and progress, as well as toward change and peaceful revolution to meet the rising expectations of the people.

Vice President Fernando Lopez, and the eight senatorial candidates were also roundly cheered by the crowd as they each took a turn at the platform.

While on board *RPS 777*, enroute to Tagbilaran, the President directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release ₱1 million to the Department of Social Welfare from the calamity fund for the relief and rehabilitation of disaster victims and to meet any contingency requiring immediate relief measures.

In ordering the release of the relief fund, the President also authorized the DSW to spend 10 per cent of the amount for operational expenses.

*Source:* **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

## **Official Week in Review: August 19 – August 25, 1962**

**August 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led the nation today in paying tribute to the memory of the late President Manuel L. Quezon whose 84th birthday anniversary was observed throughout the country today.

This was the first time that Quezon's birthday was celebrated nationally. The President had earlier issued a proclamation enjoining everyone to observe the day "with appropriate ceremonies as fitting tribute to the great national leader and to inculcate upon our countrymen, especially the youth, the rights and duties of good citizenship to the end that they will consecrate themselves to the ideals and traditions of our Republic."

Center of today's celebration was the Quezon Memorial at the elliptical rotunda in Quezon City where a huge crowd composed of members of the Cabinet led by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, members of the diplomatic corps and Congress, civic and religious groups, units of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, ROTC cadets from the different colleges and universities, boy scouts, and the general public assembled for the ceremony.

Full military honors, including a 21-gun salute, was accorded the Chief Executive upon his arrival at the foot of the Quezon Memorial. He was accompanied by the First Lady.

Shortly thereafter, the First Couple led in the floral offerings at the foot of the still unfinished monument to the late "Star of Baler" as a Philippine Air Force plane hovered to drop flowers.

The President was introduced by Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto, while Dean Amando V. Isip, chairman of this year's celebration, made the opening remarks.

After the President's speech Mayor Amoranto requested the late President's only son, Manuel "Nonong Quezon, Jr., to come up the elevated foundation of the Quezon Memorial. A round of applause greeted Nonong as he obliged.

The President was again accorded a 21-gun salute as he left for Malacañang shortly after the memorial rites.

The Chief Executive did not receive any caller the rest of the day. Instead, he went over pending state papers.

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady, together with their children, heard mass at the Palace chapel.

President Macapagal was informed by Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag this evening that he has ordered the filing of criminal charges against Sen. Fernando Lopez and his brother, Eugenio.

Criminal proceedings will be instituted tomorrow against Sen. Lopez for (1) having been financially interested in a contract with the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation involving a big parcel of land in Quezon City in violation of section 17, Article Vi, of the constitution and for (2) violation of Republic Act No. 3019, otherwise known as the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act.

Section 17 of the Constitutions provides the penal sanction for the constitutional prohibition against contracts entered into by senators and congressmen with the government, its agencies or instrumentalities.

Sen. Lopez, together with his brother, will also be charged with violation of the Tax Census and falsification of public documents.

According to Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., the justice secretary has directed the filling of two cases, one in Quezon City and the other in Manila.

According to the Department of Justice, it appears that on January 4, 1957, Eugenio Lopez, Sr., brother of Sen. Lopez, acquired by virtue of a conditional contract to sell from the PHHC one whole bloc, identified as Block S-1 of

the South Triangle, Diliman Estate Subdivision located along Bohol Avenue, Quezon City. It contains an area of 44,027.3 square meters. It was sold for P14.00 a square meter or a total cost of P616,382.20 payable in ten years.

It was found out, however, that Sen. Lopez and Eugenio Lopez, Sr., declared said property as belonging to them in equal shares as shown by their individual Tax Consensus Returns for 1957 and 1961. Although ostensibly the property was acquired for the *Manila Chronicle*, which is controlled by the Lopez brothers, investigation showed that the said corporation has no interest in the same.

**August 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred today with provincial and municipal officials on various problems affecting their respective regions.

First to meet with the President was a large delegation composed of mayors from the province of Samar accompanied by Rep. Eladio T. Balite, ex-Rep. Valeriano Yancha, and Agriculture Undersecretary Esteban Piczon. They requested the Chief Executive the release of public works funds, especially for a waterworks system in Calbayog City. They said that it is the only city in the country without a waterworks system.

In the group were Provincial Board Member Jacinto Tobias; Mayors Lorenzo Menzon of Lapinig, Leon Turbanada of Catubid, Rafael Gomba of Gamay, Juan Gorgonia of Palapag, Ases Jolejole of Las Navas, Romulo Giray of Laoang, Ramon Siervo of Pambujan, Diego Merino of San Roque, Felimon Pahumnayan of Mondragon, Basilio Chan of Laverzares, Max Manook of Allen, Ricardo Palacio of San Antonio, Melanio Olano of San Isidro, Cipriano Roma of Sta. Margarita, Pio Merida of Bobon, Agustin Pendirima of San Jose, Quinciano Tomamak of Almagro, Felix Braga of Daran, Miguel Diaz of Gandra, Ricardo Babon of Hinabanga, Francisco Amantillo of Marabut, Ricardo Raquil of Pinabacdas, Gaudencio Espino of Sta. Rita, Antonio Gomez of Sto. Niño, Hilario Peñaranda of Tarangnan, and Fidencio Latorre of Villareal; and Vice-Mayors Leovegildo Delorino of Catarman, Mariano Sacadal of Calbayog City, and Natividad Jamir of Catubig.

Others who saw the President at Malacañang this morning were Govs. Constancio Navarro of Surigao, Rodolfo Ignacio of Mindoro Oriental, Dominaor S. Asis of Camarines Norte, Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Felicísimo San Luis of Laguna, Pedro R. Dizon of Bataan, and Antonio Mayuga of Romblon; Vice-Govs. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental, Arsenio Quibranza of Lanao del Norte, and Amando Castillo of Pampanga; Provincial Board Members R. Palmares of Iloilo, Lino Suñga of Pampanga, and Torribio Siozon of Bataan; and Roxas City Mayor Lorenzo Arnaldo.

In the afternoon the President conferred with Assistant Executive Secretary Sixto Roxas and Armand Fabella. He also met separately with Presidential Executive Eleuterio Adevosos and DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo.

The Chief Executive flashed the green light today for the immediate construction of the first P3 million 10-storey tenement building in Tondo to provide cheap housing for the low-salaried and the wage-earners as part of his socio-economic program for the poor.

In a recent conference with Public Works Secretary Brigido R. Valencia at Malacañang, the President had approved the plans for the building. He emphasized that the relief of congested areas, like the slum districts of Tondo, should be given priority.

The construction of the Tondo tenement building will start off the President's massive program to provide salutatory living conditions to small-income groups.

Other sites being considered for the Administration's housing program are the 35-hectare compound of the National Development Company on Pureza Street and lots in Quezon City, Tagaytay City, and other nearby localities.

The President today proclaimed Thursday, August 30, the 112th birthday anniversary of Marcelo H. del Pilar, special public holiday for the province of Bulacan.

The President issued the proclamation in view of the desire of the people of Bulacan, in the home province of the hero, that they be given full opportunity to observe the occasion with fitting ceremonies.

In his proclamation the President noted the struggles of Plaridel (*nom de plume* of the Filipino patriot) in Spain to obtain reforms for the Philippines during the Spanish regime.

This evening the President continued his relentless drive against undesirable aliens as he ordered the deportation of a prominent Chinese businessman in Cebu City for tax evasion in the amount of P1,128,448.00, and seven other Chinese who have been convicted of various crimes ranging from illegal possession of morphine to maintenance of vice-dens.

The Deportation Board which recommended his expulsion from the country succeeded in establishing after due hearing that Kho is an undesirable alien whose presence in the Philippines is a menace to the peace and safety of the community.

In deporting the seven others, the President took into account the menace to the youth of the country and society as a show posed by the activities of dope addicts and peddlers.

The seven others ordered deported by the President upon recommendation of the Deportation Board for having proven themselves as undesirable aliens unfit to remain in this country, were:

1. Co Tay *alias* Go Lan, who was convicted for illegal possession and control of morphine and sentenced to a prison term of two months and one day, for failure to provide himself with an alien certificate of registration as required by law and for the use of an *alias* without judicial authority.

2. Seng Kee, for his conviction for two separate violations of Article 190 of the Revised Penal Code; namely, illegal possession of prohibited drugs and paraphernalia and maintaining a dive or resort where morphine is administered on the human body.

3. Co Liong Tao, also for illegal possession of morphine and failure to secure an alien certificate of registration, and sentenced to four months and a fine of P300.

4. Sy Ton Kon, for his conviction for violation of the opium law wherein he was sentenced to prison for six months and one day and a fine of P300.

5. Sy Suan, for his conviction on the charge of illegal possession of morphine, and sentenced to two months and one day, and a fine of P300.

6. Cheng Hong, for illegal possession of opium and sentenced to four months and one day and a fine of P1,000.

7. Lam Yee, also for illegal possession of morphine and sentenced to six months and one day and a fine of P500.

**August 21.**—THIS morning President Macapagal had a breakfast conference with Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, who returned recently from the International Labor Organization conference in Geneva, Switzerland.

In the course of a busy morning schedule, the Chief Executive also met with SSS Commissioner Manuel Concordia, who took up with him matters affecting the first district of Laguna, and with Reparations Commissioner. C. Zaldivar, who consulted him on problems concerning Antique. With Zaldivar were Antique ex-Gov. Alberto Villabert, Patungan Mayor Juan Español, and San Jose Severa P. Banusin.

Another provincial group led by Mayor Manuel Olandrez of Gubat, Sorsogon, called on the President. In the group were Salvador Escudero, Jr., Jaime Gata, and Rogado Halom.

Cotabato City Mayor Mama Sinsuat also met with the President to discuss the agricultural development of Mindanao and matters concerning his city.

The President also received Eugenio Santos of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

In the afternoon the President went over pending state papers.

President Macapagal today directed the dismissal from the service of an Army officer who was accused and found guilty of violation of Article of War No. 96.

Dismissed from the service was 1st Lt. Venerio A. Luna, an infantry officer of the Replacement Company, HPA, Fort McKinley, who was found guilty of having (1) engaged in intimate relations with one Evelyn Monserrat, as husband and wife, and (2) contracted another marriage on February 21, 1957 with said Evelyn Monserrat despite his being them legally married to Laura Villafuerte.

The penalty of dismissal imposed by general court was approved by DND authorities.

**August 22.**—THE PRESIDENT held a breakfast conference today with Central Bank Gov. Andres Castillo, PNB President Bienvenido Dizon, and Albert Mattera of the International Monetary Fund.

The Chief Executive paused from his busy schedule this morning to greet the members of the Bayanihan Philippine Dance Company who last returned from a world-wide performance tour.

The dance troupe, which had called on the President and the First Lady to pay their respects and to thank the Chief Executive for the interest he had shown in the work of the *Bayanihan*.

In expressing their deep appreciation to the President, the *Bayanihan* presented copies of the latest Bayanihan records—one from Paris and the other from Monitor records in the United States.

The group was led by Helena Z. Benitez, company president; Leticia Perez de Guzman, executive director; and Lucrecia Kasilag, company director.

President Macapagal held today a series of conference with members of congress in the course of a tight morning schedule at Malacañang.

Those who called on the Chief Executive to consult him on problems affecting their respective congressional districts were: Reps. Viceno Sagum of Zamboanga del Norte; Tereso Dumon, Ramona Durano, and Manuel Zosa of Cebu; Pedro Trono and Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo; Josefina Duran of Albay; Luciano Joson of Mindoro Occidental; Vicente V. de Lara of Misamis Oriental; Emilio Cortez of Pampanga; Benjamin Ligot and Tito Dupaya of Cagayan; Luis Hora of Mountain Province; Eladio Balite and Felipe Abrigo of Samar; Francisco Lecaroz of Marinduque; Simeon Valdez of Ilocos Norte Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur; Jose Gojuangco, Jr., of Tarlac; Ramon Bagatsing and Fidel Santiago of Manila; and Pablo Sanidad of Ilocos Sur.

With Rep. Sanidad were Mayors Samuel Orpilla of San Esteban, Leopoldo Geronilla of Salcedo, Concordia Appayo of Del Pilar, Laureano, Ayson of Sta. Maria, Benjamin Cantorno of Nagbukel, and Jesus Bueno of Santa; and Vice-Mayor Justo Mendoza of Narvacan.

The President also met with Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, and BIR Commissioner Jose Lingad.

The President signed today a proclamation declaring August 29 as a special public holiday in the municipality of San Juan, Rizal, to commemorate the 68th anniversary of the battle of Pinaglabanan.

The battle of Pinaglabanan is an historical event in the Philippines struggle for freedom which took place in San Juan.

In his proclamation to celebrate the occasion with fitting ceremonies in honor of those who died in Pinaglabanan so that this country may live in peace.

President Macapagal assured today President Ngo Dinh Diem of the support of the Philippine government in their life and death struggle against the communist.

He gave this assurance in reply to a letter sent by the Vietnamese Chief of State and in which President Diem appraised him of the serious situation prevailing as a result of continuous Communist aggression in Vietnam.

In his letter to President Diem, the Chief Executive told the Vietnamese leader that "in your crucial fight for existence against the aggressive and subversive forces of communism which threaten the peace and stability of Southeast Asia, you may further count on the sympathy of my country and people."

**August 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal paid tribute this morning to the farmers of the land whom he called the heroes of the present in a speech at the awarding of prizes to the winners of the 1961-62 rice and corn production contests at the social hall of the Bureau of Plant Industry in San Andres, Malate, in which he was guest speaker.

The President and the First Lady arrived at the bureau's compound at exactly 9'clock this morning and were met by Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon and Plant Industry Director Eugenio Cruz.

The First Lady, assisted by PNB President Bienvenido Dizon, officiated at the awarding of prizes to this year's major winners. It was the last of the four-year national rice and corn production contest which started in 1958.

To show his appreciation to the accomplishment of the winners, the President gave an additional P3,000 out of his own prizes of P1,000 each to the three first prize winners in the lowland rice contest.

The President also said he would issue a proclamation to extend the contest during the whole period of his administration. To give more impetus to the food production contest, the President said that he will issue an executive order creating a national food campaign committee to be headed by Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon with Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces and RICOB Chairman Jose Feliciano as members.

This evening President Macapagal directed the Solicitor General and the Land Tenure Administration to take immediate action for the recovery of 4,778 hectares of agricultural land which form part of the Canlubang Sugar Estate, for distribution to the tenants and other landless persons. The President also directed Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag to take such action as the law, the facts and the people's interest may warrant.

According to Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., the President's action is in line with the Administration's determined drive against venalities in order to establish a situation of equal and fair opportunity to all which does not sanction the misuse of an official position to amass ill-gotten wealth.

Paruñgao said that in taking this decision, President Macapagal said it pained him to take action adversely affecting former Speaker Jose Yulo, who was served the Liberal Party in various capacities, but that as President he was pledged to do justice to every man and apply the laws equally to every citizen of the land, no matter how wealthy or humble their station in life may be.

The directive to the Solicitor General and the LTA refers to the agricultural portion of the Canlubang Sugar Estate which, according to the official government records, was purchased through a P4 million loan from the then Rehabilitation Finance Corporation in 1948, when former Speaker Yulo was a member of the RFC board of governors, in violation of section 13 of Republic Act 85.



Section 13 of the RFC law prohibits any employee or officer, like a member of the board of governors, from directly or indirectly borrowing from the RFC, violation of which is punishable by imprisonment for not less than one year nor exceeding five years and a fine.

Paruñgao said that the President, in taking action against former Speaker Yulo, felt that this is one of the most painful acts that the Chief Executive has taken so far in the course of his moral regeneration drive which is being carried out for the welfare of our people.

According to Paruñgao, in the 1957 presidential elections, former President Carlos P. Garcia, with the support of Sen. Lorenzo Tañada and others, raised this illegal loan as a political issue against Mr. Yulo and pledged that if elected the Garcia administration would recover the Canlubang Sugar Estate for the people either by purchase, expropriation, or reconveyance of trust property, together with criminal prosecution. The people sustained this issue by the election of President Garcia, said Paruñgao.

The Palace spokesman added that after the people's verdict and although a petition has been filed by some 90 percent of the tenants led by Mayor Taciano Rizal of Calamba, no action was taken despite the solid thesis propounded by Sen. Tañada to the people that the illegal loan was an "illuminating example of how power and official position were used by Mr. Yulo for his personal aggrandizement" in gross violation of what Mr. Tañada correctly enunciated that "public office is a public trust which the holder may not use directly or indirectly for personal profit."

**August 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today Ambassador Victorino Carpio, who called on him this morning to give his side on the apartheid question in South Africa.

Earlier the President had a conference with BIR Commissioner Jose B. Lingad on matters concerning the tax collecting agency of the government. The Chief Executive also met with Sen. Ferdinand Marcos.

Shortly before noon the Chief Executive had another conference with DBP Chairman Silvestre Punsalan and PNB President Bienvenido Dizon. He then received a delegation from Davao led by Sen. Gaudencio Antonino and Malacañang Financial Assistant Gregorio Manongdo.

In the group were Mati Mayor Alberto V. Ravelo and Vice-Mayor Senador Zamora; Councilors Rafael Yap, Serafin Vizconde, Amado Viray, Ricarte Gayta, Aniceto Tuazon, Panlileo Cambing, Maximo Morales, and Luis Rabat, Jr., Mrs. Purita M. Ravelo, Patricio S. Cunanan, Jovencio G. Reclusado, Leopoldo Vercy, and Pacita Yap.

Other callers this morning included Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco Rep. Gerardo Roxas of Capiz, and Acting Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr.

In the afternoon the President held his regular weekly press conference.

At his press conference the President took his critics to task for indulging in "generalities" in their attacks against his actuations.

President Macapagal challenged his critics to point out "specific cases of violation of due process" as he stoutly denied he had disregarded the civil liberties and constitutional rights of alien and Filipino businessmen and other government officials in his anti-graft drive.

The President said he is a "strong believer of due process" and added that "there is no danger for my administration to violate due process" in the country.

During his press conference, the President also:

1. Gave a clean bill of health to Ambassador Victorio Carpio in the latter's controversial role as chairman of the United Nations for Southwest Africa;
2. In reply to a question asking him whether he was running for re-election, said that "the less talk about politics, the better at this time."
3. Announced the creation of the Program Implementation Agency and the appointment of Assistant Executive Secretary Sixto Roxas, Jr., as its chairman, to look after the implementation of the Administration's socio-economic program;
4. Said he will go on a radio-television chat on Tuesday to discuss lengthily his clean-up drive following the prosecution of alien and Filipino businessmen; and
5. Promised to announce his decision on the long-drawn out Muslim pilgrimage case shortly.

In assailing his critics for indulging in generalities, the President said he knows the law and the Constitution and would never take any move which would violate the people's civil liberties.

**August 25.**—ACCOMPANIED by the First Lady, the President arrived this morning in Daet aboard a special train in one of his sorties to southern Luzon provinces in keeping with his policy of regionalizing Malacañang and bringing the government closer to the people.

In an impassioned speech before a large crowd at the town plaza in Daet, the President asked for the support and understanding of the people of Camarines Norte during this difficult period of transition in the political and economic life of the nation.

The President urged public support to the implementation of his integrated socio-economic program calculated to bring a happier life for the common masses. He also explained to the people of Camarines Norte his campaign against malpractices both in the private and government business sectors. He said that in his drive against venalities, he will not spare anyone, no matter how rich or powerful he may be.

The President cited the Stonehill case and other irregularities the President added, should serve as a warning that he really means business.

He stressed, however, that the Administration welcomes very much foreign investors who would conduct their business properly and in accordance with the laws of the country.

President Macapagal denounced this afternoon some opposition leaders for injecting politics in the Administration's campaign against venalities.

The Chief Executive said government critics are only playing politics to suit their selfish ends and are discrediting the Administration to the detriment of public welfare.

The President observed that during the past regime, in the drive against graft and corrupt practices in public offices, only the small fry were caught while the so-called big fishes and sacred cows have been spared.

He vowed that under the New Era, the big and the small alike, if they commit acts inimical to good government and against public morals and existing laws, will be brought to justice with equal opportunities sanctioned by democratic processes.

The President emphasized that indeed, no one is above the law. He stressed, every citizen will be treated equally, whether he be poor, rich, or powerful.

The President made these remarks in a speech during the induction of officers of the Philippine Government Employees Association (PGEA), Camarines Norte chapter.

In his speech before the PGEA officials, the President also said that the Administration welcomes foreigners who are legitimate investors and who would want to help in the development of the economy.

Asked about his action on the unscrupulous aliens, the President said: "We want our country to be run like heaven by Filipinos but, certainly we do not want it run like hell by aliens."

The President administered the oaths of office to the following officers of the Philippine Government Employees Association (Camarines Norte Chapter): Filemon M. Velasco, district mining officer of the Bureau of Mines, as chairman; Ireneo Centeno, MVO provincial registrar, as vice-chairman; Azucena S. Cantor, PACD fiscal clerk, as secretary; Florentino R. Rasco of the BIR, as treasurer; Wenceslao Baguinon of the Bureau of Forestry, as auditor; Dr. Prudencio Tamayo of the Bureau of Animal Industry, as delegate to conventio; and Nonorado de Mesa of the Vinzons Memorial Library, as provincial coordinator. The President also swore in Board Member Serapion Cribbe, Jr., as vice-governor of Camarines Norte.

On hand to greet the President and the First Lady as they arrived in Sipocot was a large crowd headed by Gov. Dominador S. Asis and PHHC Gen. Manager Esmeraldo Eco. From the station, the President motored to Daet where another huge crowd enthusiastically received the entourage. The President and the First Lady then proceeded to the St. John the Baptist church of Daet where a *Te Deum* was sung by Fr. Antonino Regaret.

From the church the President and the First Lady motored to the residence of Gov. Asis where they had refreshments. From there they proceeded to the town plaza to fulfill an speaking engagement.

After the program at the town plaza, the President and the First Lady went to the Vinzons Elementary School in Vinzons where they had lunch.

Shortly after the lunch the First Lady officiated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony inaugurating the lunch counter of the school.

*Source: Supreme Court Library*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58(35), cccxxxiii-cccxl.

## President's Week in Review: August 26 - September 1, 1962

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**August 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal called upon the people today to dedicate their energies “to the great task of hand” so that the great movement started by Andres Bonifacio may be carried to a happy conclusion in the present endeavor for social and economic emancipation of the Filipino people.

The President was guest speaker this morning in ceremonies commemorating the 66th anniversary of the “Cry of Balintawak” held at the Bonifacio Memorial School in Caloocan. He also laid the cornerstone of the Bonifacio monument at a new site in the rotonda of Novaliches high way and Epifanio de los Santos.

Speaking alternately in Pilipino and English, the President pledged, to use the courage of Bonifacio as an inspiration “so that in the same manner that Bonifacio succeeded” in toppling down Spanish colonialism in the Philippines, “our present endeavor for socio-economic emancipation will lead to a proud and glorious climax that will mark the liberation of the Filipino common man from the chains of his poverty.”

“Bonifacio’s voice still rings loud and clear. We the living must understand and appreciate its real message,” the President said.

The President asked the people not to be content alone with seeing the Filipino flag wave proudly because the fight, he said, is far from over.

We must remember that the revolution led by Bonifacio, the bloody uprising fanned by the sagacious writings of Dr. Jose Rizal, Apolinario Mabini, and Emilio Jacinto, was dictated basically by the clamor of our people for social and economic reforms,” he said.

The President said that the socio-economic program which the Administration is pursuing is in accordance with the objectives of the revolution of attaining a better life for the people.

The President reiterated his appeal not to believe aimless criticisms against his administration which, he said, are being made simply to discredit his efforts in cleaning the government of venalities and in alleviating the lot of the common man.

“As Andres Bonifacio and his fellow *Katipuneros* had dared the mightiest of the might with their cry and their bolos—it is for the common man that I am determined to clear the ground and cleanse the atmosphere, so that they may enjoy to the fullest their right to freedom and happiness,” he said.

To this end, he said, he will continue his crusade at whatever cost, “for our aims are legitimate and just, our motives pure.”

He said that the drive for prosperity and morality in the country calls for a determination as intense as that of Bonifacio’s, and as the Constitution and the laws will permit.

“Nothing can stop me now,” he said, “for if I should stop or fail, only the interests of the people as a whole will suffer, only our nation will continue to be a victim of iniquitous enslavement.”

The President was introduced by Judge Hermogenes Calauag of the Court of First Instance of Quezon City. Ambassador Modesto Farolan delivered the welcome address.

Among those present at the cornerstone laying were Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto, Caloocan City Mayor Macario Asistio, and Mesdames Delfin Laudato and Charing Marfori of the Balintawak Community Club.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal was accorded full military honors, including a 21-gun salute when he arrived at, and departed from, the place of the program at the foot of the Bonifacio monument.

The President and the First Lady left Malacañang for the ceremonies shortly before 9 a.m. They were back at the Palace about 12 noon.

In the afternoon the President and his family heard mass at the Palace chapel.

**August 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today a stream of callers composed mostly of provincial governors and city officials who took up with him problems of their respective localities.

The provincial and city officials who consulted him on local affairs, including requests for funds for public works projects, were Govs. Alfonso Dadole of Misamis Oriental, Miguel Manguera of Marinduque, Lope Damasco of Bukidnon; Telesforo Paredes of Palawan, Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Jose Evangelista of Ilocos Norte, Dominador S. Asis of Camarines Norte, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, Apolonio Malineza of Camarines Sur, and Melanio T. Singson of Isabela;

City Mayors Salvador Calo of Butuan, Camilo Cabili of Iligan, Luis Los Baños of Legaspi, and Liberato Reyna of Dagupan; Vice-Govs. Romualdo Vargas of Quezon and Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental; Board Members Carlos Fernandez and Adriano Arceo of Palawan and Nicanor Lopez of Catanduanes; and Councilors Leonardo Fugoso, Juan Baluyot, and Jose Sembrano of Manila.

With Gov. Singson in his call on the Chief Executive were Board Members Felicisima Pinpin and Leocadio E. Ignacio, ex-Gov. Silvino Gumpal; Mayors Ricardo Paguirigan of Ilagan, Salvador Gaffud of Echague, Simeon Sebastian of Jones, Josefino de Alban of Tumauni, and Celedonio Magbalela of Alicia; Vice Mayor Marcos Ramirez of Tumauni; and a host of town councilors.

The President later administered the oath of office to Jesus Blanca as member of the provincial board of Masbate. Present at the induction ceremony held at the President's study room this noon were Forestry Director Mateo S. Pecsori, Milagros Mayor Vicente de Jesus, Palanas Mayor Armin Armingol Pura, and ex-Mayor Juan Valencia of Mandaon, all of Masbate.

The President also received Sens. Gaudencio Antonino and Ferdinand Marcos, and a delegation from Pampanga headed by Vice-Gov. Amado Castillo and Board Member, Lino S. Suñga.

In the afternoon the President conferred with SSS Commissioner Manuel Concordia, Nueva Viscaya Gov. Jose G. Espino, Calamba Mayor Taciano Rizal, and PHHC General Manager Esmeraldo Eco.

He also met with Executive Secretary Salvador Mariño, Assistant Executive Secretary for Economic Affairs Sixto Roxas, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and Armand Fabella.

**August 28.**—THIS morning the President cancelled all engagements with his callers, as he worked the whole day on his speech in his bedroom with unidentified advisers.

This evening the President delivered his eighth radio-television chat entitled *The Big Drive*.

The President mounted a rostrum at the Malacañang social hall where he reviewed and justified his current punitive actions against Filipino and alien businessmen.

As he delivered his radio-TV chat, heavy rains fell with thunder and lightning as if to provide a background for the President's message to the nation.

It was one of the longest radio-TV chats President Macapagal delivered and his voice was hoarse at the latter portion of his speech. He had revised his speech and included excerpts from an afternoon newspaper.

Toward the end of the speech, the President fumbled for the right pages and paused for more than a minute looking for the continuing page.

In his radio-TV chat President Macapagal pledged to push “with vigor” the implementation of the socio-economic program “confident that the forces which endanger its success are no longer in a position to hamper its success.”

The President reviewed his two-week anti-graft drive and said:

“We have exposed the main classes of obstacles in the attainment of our national goals and we have shown how the Administration is going to deal with them.”

The President said there are so many cases of venalities “and, it being impracticable to attend fully to each and all of them, it became imperative to select a few exemplary ones classified into categories.”

He classified them as follows:

1. Aliens who have organized networks of corruption to advance in business;
2. Former aliens although not leaving elaborate webs of corruption, engaged in venalities to promote their business interests;
3. Businessmen who have engaged in profiteering;
4. Foreigners who have evaded payment of due taxes;
5. Foreigners who have participated actively in partisan politics;
6. Nationals who have utilized organized political power to build business empires; and
7. Nationals who have misused their public trust to amass wealth. The President flayed at foreigners who interfered in elections and pointed out that “their presence and activities here are an insult to our national dignity and inimical to our national security.”

He said he will proceed relentlessly against these aliens who had one way or another participated in the previous elections.

The President gave stern warnings to those who would still commit transgressions and to those who would be “unfair to us.”

“The drive against venalities should now make it clear that under this Administration, no man is above the law,” the President said. “There will be no untouchable, sacred cows.”

No one, however wealthy, powerful, or prominent would be so big as to be beyond the reach of the law, he said, adding that it was only in this way that real democracy could exist in this country.

He reiterated his assurance that those who used legal and moral means to further their interests need not fear his drive, as it was for them that it was being pursued.

**August 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal held today a series of conferences with members of Congress who called on him at Malacañang for consultations on matters affecting their respective districts.

Those who conferred with the Chief Executive were Reps. Pablo Sanidad and Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur, Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, Manuel T. Cases of La Union, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Salih Uttutalum of Sulu, Guillermo Sambo of Misamis Occidental, Luciano Joson of Mindoro Occidental, Lucas Paredes of Abra, Eladio Balite of Samar, Maximo Noel of Cebu, Amadeo J. Perez and Angel S. Fernandez of Pangasinan, Tito Dupaya and Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, Primo Villasin of Leyte del Norte, Francisco Lecaroz of Marinduque, Josefina Duran of Albay, Ramon Tabiana and Pedro Trono of Iloilo, Vincenzo Sagum of Zamboanga del Norte, Jose Alberto of Catanduanes, and Rasid Lucman of Lanao del Sur.

With Rep. Lucman during his call on the President were Lanao del Sur Gov. Madki Alonto, Deputy Govs. Batugan Pitual of Tamparan and Alamia Macapnar of Balindong, Mayor Macapado Batara of Marawi City, and Mayor Palawan Disorminuba of Tamparan and Pangadapan Benito of Balabagan.

The President also met with Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun and Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano.

Earlier this morning the President gave a breakfast interview to Nick Joaquin of the *Philippines Free Press*.

In the afternoon the President conferred with Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevosio, concurrently deputy administrator of the Emergency Employment Administration.

He also met with Sen. Camilo Osias on the development of Northern Luzon which includes flood control systems, reforestation, irrigation, and road construction.

The President directed today all government offices and entities to refrain from celebrating anniversaries of their organizations which entail personal expenses and place further financial burdens upon low-salaried employees.

The President issued the directive through Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, who put out a circular pointing out that there is not much to be gained from these celebrations at this time when the people's energies should be devoted to "serious and productive work."

He enjoined these government entities not to hold these celebrations "except for compelling reasons" and only upon prior approval of the President's office.

Malacañang denied today news reports that President Macapagal is poised to relieve Cesar C. Climaco as commissioner of the Bureau of Customs.

In a statement Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., dismissed the news report as "definitely speculative" and "without basis."

"There is no truth whatsoever to the report. Commissioner Climaco is staying on as customs chief because he enjoys the full confidence of the President," Secretary Paruñgao said.

**August 30.**—THIS morning President Macapagal tendered a breakfast in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Rockefeller, Sr., who are in Manila to attend the 1962 Ramon Magsaysay Awards ceremonies at the Philamlife auditorium on Isaac Peral tomorrow afternoon.

Rockefeller will represent the Rockefeller Brothers Fund in the presentation ceremonies where in seven awardees will receive medals and certificates for outstanding achievements in their respective fields of endeavor.

With the Rockefellers this morning were their son Laurence, Jr., U.S. Ambassador and Mrs. William E. Stevenson, Otis Imboden, and Algernon B. Reese.

After the breakfast the President received Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, and outgoing Philippine Ambassador to the United States Emilo Abello. Abello returned from Washington by way of Hongkong yesterday afternoon after serving for about seven months as Philippine envoy to the U.S.

Shortly afterwards the President met with BIR Commissioner Jose B. Lingad and NBI Director Jose Lukban on matters concerning their respective offices. He also had lengthy conference with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal.

In the afternoon the President motored to Tondo to inspect the site of the proposed P3 million tenement houses which will be constructed in that district- to alleviate the living conditions of the poor wage-earners.

The Chief Executive was accompanied by Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Rep. Fidel Santiago, and Councilors Jose Sembrano and Martin Isidro of the first district of Manila.

The President signed today a proclamation declaring Friday, August 31, as a special public holiday in the province of Zambales to commemorate the 55th birthday anniversary of the late President Ramon Magsaysay.

In his proclamation the President said: "In the few years that God gave him to serve our people, President Magsaysay made himself a true brother and earnest defender of the common man, dedicated himself to improving the public service, and did everything for the advancement of the Republic."

The President enjoined the people of Zambales to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the beloved Filipino leader.

President Macapagal signed today an executive order creating the National Food Production Campaign Committee in line with the Administration's objective of spurring the country to attain self-sufficient in foods as set down in the government's five-year integrated socio-economic program.

In his executive order the Chief Executive took note of the fact that "one of the most serious problems confronting the country today is the recurring shortage on foods, particularly rice and corn, fish, meat, poultry, milk, and milk products, to meet the standard nutritional requirements of our fast-growing population."

He also cited the attainment of self-sufficiency in food as one of the principal objectives of the government's five-year integrated socio-economic program, adding that the realization of this objective will help in the stabilization of the price of prime commodities.

In creating the National Food Production Campaign Committee, the President expressed confidence the move would not only bring about attainment by the country of self-sufficiency in foods, but that at the same time it would provide for a surplus in production and supply raw materials necessary for the establishment of industries.

As set down in the executive order, the secretary of agriculture, the secretary of education, and the general manager of the Rice and Corn Administration will compose the committee. The executive order empowers the committee to create coordinating committees in the different regions, provinces, municipalities, and municipal districts, and organize work groups and promulgate such rules and regulation as may be necessary to carry out its functions.

**August 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal held today a round of conferences with key officials of the Administration in the course of a busy whole-day working schedule at Malacañang.

First to meet with the President was Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, who discussed with him matters affecting the Department of Foreign Affairs during their breakfast conference.



The Chief Executive then received Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo and Alberto Mattera, representative of the International Monetary Fund in the Philippines.

Following his conference with Castillo and Mattera, the President received Director Efren Mendoza of the Rice and Corn Board, who briefed him on the progress of the gradual nationalization of the rice and corn industry.

Other morning callers of the President included former Rep. Ombra Amilbangsa, Luis Lopez, chairman of the Philippine Sugar Institute, Congressman Justo Albert of Manila, and Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun. Pendatun was accompanied by Cotabato Vice-Gov. Sergio Morales, Cotabato Provincial Board Member Cornelio Falgui, and Mayor Jose L. Guerrero of Sultan sa Barong, Cotabato.

The Chief Executive also received a delegation composed of 14 tenant leaders from the Canlubang Estate who presented to him a petition urging the government to subdivide that portion of the Canlubang Estate which it seeks to recover.

Heading the delegation was Pio Crisostomo, president of the Federation of Free Farmers. With the group were Calamba Mayor Taciano Rizal and Social Security System Commissioner Manuel Concordia.

This afternoon the President presided over a special meeting of his Cabinet and took up plans of pushing through “with vigor” the implementation of his socio-economic program.

The President seldom meets the members of his Cabinet. He calls a meeting with them only whenever there are state matters to be deliberated upon.”

It was the first meeting to be attended by Assistant Executive Secretary, Sixto Roxas, Jr., who was recently named director of the Program Implementation Agency.

It was also the first Cabinet meeting to be attended by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño as full-pledged member of the President’s advisory body.

Before presiding over the Cabinet meeting, the President met newsmen at his regular Friday press conference.

President Macapagal issued today the following statement on the occasion of the 55th birth anniversary of the late President Magsaysay.

“As we pause today to remember the greatness of the late President Magsaysay on the occasion of his 55th birth anniversary, it is but fitting that we ponder on what he gave and what he attained for the people during his shortlived, yet fruitful term as President of our Republic.

“President Magsaysay took over the helm of our Government at a time when the people needed most a man of his integrity, his determination and his leadership. The cry and the aspiration of the masses then was for a leader who would champion their cause, a leader who would be responsive to their appeals, and a leader who would help them attain their dream of a better life and a promising future. And Magsaysay was this man.

“It is tragic that President Magsaysay met death on that mountainside in Cebu before he could complete the great task which he had so determinedly endeavored to achieve, but the people will always recall with undying gratitude the way he pursued with undiminishing vigor his goal of living up to the common, man’s high expectation of his administration.”

The President said today that the signing into law of the Philippine War Damage bill by United States President John F. Kennedy is “proof of the innate sense of fairness of the American people and their desire to do what is fair and just.”

In a cablegram sent this afternoon to the U.S. Chief Executive, President Macapagal recalled that he had been deeply moved by the spontaneous assurance of affection sent to him by thousands of Americans when the bill was disapproved by the U.S. house of representatives.

By letters and telegrams received at Malacañang these American friends had expressed regret over the action of their congress and had urged the President to go on with his state visit to the United States which was scheduled last June.

“To them all,” the President said, “I would like to send my sincere acknowledgment of thanks and the expression of my confident belief that this happy event not only demonstrates the extraordinary strength and resiliency of American democracy but also reassures us that there exists in America an inexhaustible reservoir of goodwill towards the Philippines.” He added: “Let me assure you in turn that this goodwill is fully reciprocated by the Filipino people and that it is their desire that such reciprocal goodwill shall continue in the future to inspire Philippine-American relations.”

“On the occasion of the signing into law of the Philippine War Damage Bill, I wish to convey to you the warm appreciation of the people and government of the Philippines for the initiative exercised by the White House and the leaders of congress that made this happy outcome possible. We are aware that the reversal of the previous adverse decision of congress is unusual in American legislative annals. We regard it, therefore, as proof of the innate sense of fairness of the American people and their desire to do what is fair and just.

“May I say that I have been deeply moved by the spontaneous assurances of regard, friendship, and affection that were addressed by letter and telegram to the Filipino people through me by thousands of our American friends. To them all, I would like to send my sincere acknowledgment of thanks and the expression of my confident belief that this happy event not only demonstrates the extraordinary strength and resiliency of American democracy but also reassures us that there exists in America an inexhaustible reservoir of good will towards the Philippines.

“Let me assure you, in turn, that this good will is fully reciprocated by the Filipino people and that it is their desire that such reciprocal good will shall continue in the future to inspire Philippine American relations.”

**September 1.**—THIS morning President Macapagal outlined before the officers and men of the Armed Forces of the Philippines the “grander mission” which the Administration expects them to accomplish in line with its avowed task of bringing about a better and more abundant life for the people.

Of this mission, the President said, “it goes beyond keeping vigil over the security of our country” and that “it is more than a mission—it is a crusade or part of a national crusade.”

“Fundamentally,” he said, “it means helping to establish and safeguard the security of effective opportunities for all our people, principally the enlisted men and the common citizens, to the end that ours shall not be democracy only in name but in fact which assures not only security from aggression, not only freedom from foreign domination, not only political liberty but, above all, an effective security from want, and to enjoy in freedom an abundant life for all our people.”

The President delivered the main address at the Armed Forces change-of-command ceremonies held this morning at Camp Murphy to mark the assumption by Lieut. Gen. Alfredo M. Santos of the post of AFP chief of staff, vice Lieut. Gen. Pelagio Cruz who retired yesterday.

The President was fetched from Malacañang at 9 o’clock this morning by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr. He was accompanied by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal.

Upon arrival at the Camp Murphy parade grounds, the Chief Executive was accorded military honors by a battalion of the cadet corps of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

After reviewing the honor battalion, the President boarded an open military jeep and trooped a composite regiment of the AFP commanded by Brig. Gen. Dominador Garcia. With him were outgoing AFP Chief of Staff Pelagio Cruz and Lieut. Gen. Alfredo M. Santos, the new AFP chief of staff.

The President then presented the Distinguished Silver Star to retired General Cruz and Commodore Simeon B. Castro of the Philippine Navy “for meritorious and distinguished service.”

Shortly afterwards, the President administered the oaths of office to:

- (1) General Cruz as presidential assistant on military affairs and acting chairman of the Reparations Commission;
- (2) Major General Pedro Q. Molina as vice-chief of staff of the AFP; and
- (3) Lt. Gen. Santos as the new AFP chief of staff.

The President had designated Juan B. Magluyan as officer in charge of the Philippine Navy, pending the appointment of a new Navy chief.

In the afternoon the President motored to the Social Security System building in Intramuros where he was guest of honor on the occasion of the fifth foundation day of the SSS.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **Official Week in Review: September 2 – September 8, 1962**

**September 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today made a surprise survey of the Rice and Corn Administration's retail stores which started selling rice to the consuming public at from P0.95 a ganta last Saturday to insure the availability of rice at reduced prices in the market.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, RCA Chairman Jose Y. Feliciano, and Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao Jr., visited RCA retail outlets in Tondo and Sta. Ana.

The President after making the rounds expressed gratification at the RCA's drive to supply ample stocks of the prime staple during the lean months of September and October.

During his inspection tour the President was informed by residents living near the RCA retail stores that they have been making their rice purchases at the announced RCA price of from P0.85 to P0.95 a ganta.

Residents in the slum areas of Lakandula in Tondo and Estrada extension in Sta. Ana, mobbed the President and thanked him for his efforts to bring to the common people low-cost rice.

Feliciano informed the President that more RCA rolling stores will fan out into the suburbs and neighboring provinces this week to keep a steady supply of low-cost rice.

After his inspection of RCA stalls, the President and the First Lady proceeded to the Philippine General Hospital, where they visited NDC Chairman Marcos Calo who is confined there for medical treatment.

**September 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today provincial and city officials who took up with him problems affecting their respective localities.

Gov. Dominador S. Asis of Camarines Norte saw the President to request additional calamity funds for the construction of the public market in Daet which was burned last July 20.

A group of provincial officials from Capiz headed by Gov. Francisco Villanueva asked the President for funds for the repair of damages caused by typhoons *Kate* and *Patsy*, for national aid to the province's high schools, and for budgetary aid for Capiz's general fund.

With Gov. Villanueva were Vice-Gov. Gaudencio Arancilla and Board Members Antonio Reyes and Federico Ortencio.

Gov. Frivaldo of Sorsogon saw the President in connection with the MRR extension project in his province.

Other local officials who saw the President were Acting Gov. Romualdo Vargas of Quezon, Gov. Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, Dagupan City Mayor Liberato Reyna; Vice-Gov. Levi Romero of Romblon, Provincial Board Member Nicanor Lopez of Catanduanes, and Councilors Jose Sembrano, Leonardo Fugoso, and Martin Isidro of Manila.

Following his conference with the provincial officials, the President administered the oath of office to Provincial Board Member Dominador Danan as acting governor of Pampanga. Danan will head the provincial government of Pampanga while Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno is on leave.

Present at the induction ceremony were the First Lady, Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Gov. Nepomuceno, Rep. Juanita Nepomuceno and close friends of the inductee.

Earlier this morning the President received four of the seven 1962 Ramon Magsaysay awardees who called on him to pay their respects. They were Francisca Reyes Aquino, a Filipino; Palayil Pathazapurayil Narayana an Indian-born Malayan; Mother Teresa, a Yugoslav-born Indian; and Chang Chunpha, a Korean.

The four awardees were accompanied to Malacañang by Belen Abrieu, Baldomero Olivera, and Francisco San Juan of the RM Awards board of trustees.

In the afternoon the President had a *merienda* conference with the following drug suppliers in the country who were accompanied by Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and Health Secretary Francisco Duque: Noel Araneta, Godfried Morf, Ioseles Pascual, Pedro Katigbak. William Davis, Jr., Walter Peyer, Daniel Bronk, Jose Isidro, and Andres Gabriel.

The President then presided over a meeting of his Cabinet to continue discussing the technical problems in the implementation of the socio-economic program of the Administration.

President Macapagal was assured by officials of local and foreign drug manufacturing firms in the Philippines that they would bring down, effective immediately, and at least to pre-decontrol level, the prices of anti-biotics and other life-saving medicines.

The President, according to Press Secretary Paruñgao, received the assurance in response to his appeal to drug manufacturing firms here to keep the prices of drugs within the reach of low-income wage earners during the conference this afternoon with representatives of drug companies.

**September 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal urged the nation's bankers today to assist and cultivate industrial fields that would contribute most to the general welfare.

In a speech delivered at the inauguration of the Metropolitan Bank in Binondo, the first commercial bank inaugurated under his administration, the President underscored the prominent role of financial institutions in the country's economic growth.

"Their decisions will help determine the rate of growth of our nation's productive capacity and will influence the structural changes that will take place in the economy," the President said.

The President stated that the primary task that the country faces today is to increase production and employment in order to provide a higher income to the increasing population and to supply them with the goods and services which they need for a happy and decent life.

The President urged the commercial banks to harmonize their decisions with the long-run interests of the community as a whole rather than of particular groups.

"No bank should operate for the purpose of sustaining the financial activities of particular politicians or individuals," he stressed.

The Chief Executive outlined two broad manners by which the commercial banking system lubricates the process of economic growth. They are first, by gathering the deposits of savers into large pools of investible funds; and, second, by channeling these savings into loans and investments.

The President and the First Lady left Malacañang for the inaugural ceremonies shortly before 5 p.m. They were fetched by former Agriculture Secretary Placido L. Mapa, Sr., president of the new bank.

Upon arrival at the inaugural site, the First Lady, assisted by Mesdames Placido Mapa and Salustiana Dee, the bank's vice-chairman, cut the ceremonial ribbon.

Mapa, in introducing the President who was the guest speaker at the ceremonies, said: "We have at the helm of our government a Chief Executive whose interest in the progress and economic welfare of our country is not less than his concern for, and dedication to the welfare of our people.

"His bold and courageous decision to lift controls shortly after his assumption of the reins of government will go down in history as the resumption of the era of free enterprise in our country."

Present at the ceremonies were Chairman Pablo Lorenzo of the Development Bank of the Philippines, Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., and leading members of the business community.

The Chief Executive did not receive any caller at Malacañang today following his Cabinet meeting which lasted until about midnight last night. He devoted most of his time in the morning working on pending papers and on two speeches he was to deliver in the afternoon and evening.

In the evening the President was guest speaker at the traditional "President's Night" sponsored annually by the Manila Overseas Press Club.

The President reaffirmed this evening the Philippines unwavering opposition to communism and its faith in the ultimate triumph of individual freedom over totalitarian tyranny as he laid down the main guidelines of the country's foreign policy under his administration.

"Our administration is not prepared to open our country's doors to communists so that they may come in freely to work out their evil purpose," the President stressed.

At the same time, the Chief Executive said that, in line with its opposition to communism, his administration proposes to destroy this evil in our country "by breaking and fructifying the soil of our national economy so that it may yield in freedom all that is required to satisfy the needs of a free and contented people."

It marked the first time that the President set down in detail the guidelines of the country's foreign policy under his administration, and as for its aims, he said, they were "to assist and accelerate the economic and social progress of the nation, and to help ensure the freedom of our people and the security of our Republic."

"To achieve these objectives, we have but one fundamental rule of action; namely, to develop relations of closest sympathy and cooperation with all friendly states of like mind and interests, for mutual benefit or for collective advantage, on the basis of respect for each other's rights, the principle of non-interference and the sovereign equality of States," he said.

**September 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred today with members of Congress on local problems and public works projects in their respective districts.

Led by Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, those who met with the President were Reps. Vicente B. de Lare and Guillermo Sambo of Misamis Oriental, Rasid Lucman of Lanao del Sur, Jovito Salonga of Rizal, Delfin Albano of Isabela, Justo Albert of Manila, Manuel T. Cases of La Union, Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Benjamin Ligo of Cagayan, Tereso Dumon, Ramon Durano, and Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte, Luciano Joson of Mindoro Oriental, Josefina Duran of Albay, Teodulo Natividad of Bulacan, Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Norte, Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Pablo Sanidad and Floro S. Crisologo of Ilocos Sur, Amadeo Perez of Pangasinan, and Godofredo Ramos of Aklan.

With Rep. Ramos in seeing the President were Aklan Gov. Virgilio Patricio and Mayors Federico Ecano of Kalibo and Julio Defol of Altabas.

Earlier this morning the President received Rohan Rivett, director of the International Press Institute, who paid him a courtesy call. Rivett was accompanied by Joaquin P. Roces, president of the IPI Philippine chapter.

After meeting with the Congressmen, the President received DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo who called on the Chief Executive for final instructions before leaving this afternoon to attend the meeting of the board of directors of the International Monetary Fund of the World Bank in Washington from September 7 to 21.

About 12:30 p.m., the President boarded his car and motored to the residence of House Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano in Quezon City to felicitate him on his 57th birthday. He was accompanied by Mrs. Macapagal.

The President and the First Lady were back at Malacañang about 2 p.m.

The President mobilized today all relief agencies to extend immediate aid to victims as typhoon *Amy* continued to batter Luzon with her 140 miles per hour centerwinds. The President instructed the Social Welfare Administration to dispatch foodstuffs and other materials to the ravaged areas.

The Chief Executive had previously created a seven-man committee relief and rehabilitation work during calamities. Chairmanned by the Executive Secretary, the committee was formed to provide a program for the material reconstruction of damaged areas and the economic rehabilitation of calamity victims.

President Macapagal directed this evening the Social Welfare Administration and the armed Forces to submit a report on the extent of damage to life and property in localities affected by typhoon *Amy*.

**September 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had a quiet but busy day today going over pending state papers.

In the evening the President and the First Lady attended a dinner tendered in their honor by American Ambassador and Mrs. William E. Stevenson at the U.S. envoy's residence on Dewey Boulevard.

President Macapagal authorized today the release of an initial P10 million to start off his massive program aimed at creating job opportunities to unemployed thousands and the implementation of development projects that would generate increased production.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., said the President authorized the fund release after approving the five national project proposals submitted to him Presidential Executive Assistant Elueterio Adevosio, concurrently acting administrator of the Emergency Employment Administration.

The approved projects are agricultural extension work, large-scale land clearance, reforestation, forest conservation and cottage industries. These national projects will be established in suitable and economically depressed areas in consonance with the objectives of the President's socio-economic program to generate economic growth in underdeveloped regions.

The initial P10 million will cover the operational requirements of the EEA for the current fiscal year 1962-1963. It is part of the P100 million earmarked for the EEA over a period of five years.

Under the land clearance project, the EEA will employ thousands to work in the clearing of some 20,000 hectares of fertile lands in various parts of the country for the resettlement of farmers.

The EEA forest conservation project envisions the hiring of 2,855 technical men, skilled and unskilled laborers to conduct research on forest conservation and wise utilization of forest resources, with greater bulk to act as forest guards and helpers. A massive reforestation program with 11 initial projects will be set up in different parts of the country.

In order to promote cottage to increase the per capita income of rural folk, home industry projects will also be initiated, and market acceptance for their products will be promoted.

**September 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today government officials who took up within him various matters concerning their offices.

Those offices who met with the Chief Executive were Chairman Teodoro de Vera of Abaca Corporation of the Philippines, Public Service Commissioner Enrique Medina, Gregorio Reyes of the ACCFA board of governors, Fisheries Director Arsenio Roldan, Jr., and Forestry Director Mateo Pecson.

Chairman de Vera reported to the President on the state of the abaca industry.

Commissioner Medina took up with the President the construction of a building for the Public Service Commission and his request for a supplemental budget to bring about more effective operation of the commission.

With Medina in seeing the President were Kanlaon Mayor and Mrs. Isidro Bautista and their son Isidro, Jr., and Kanlaon Councilor Baldomero de los Reyes.

Director Pecson called on the President for final instructions before leaving on Monday for a regional conferences of forestry officials in Hongkong from September 12 to 17.

Earlier this day the President conferred with some leaders of Davao led by Health Undersecretary Rodolfo Carlos on how Mindanao fits into the five-year socio-economic program of the Administration. In the group were Dr. Jose Katigbak, Councilor Fely Santos of Davao City, Amado Munda, and Rey de Villa.

The President then received Justice Jose Gutierrez David and Judge Carmelino Alvendia, who extended to him an invitation from the Alumni association of the Pampanga High School to attend the school's golden jubilee celebration this coming December. The President is an alumnus of Pampanga High School.

Other callers of the President were Chairman Jose Suntay of the Board of Liquidators and ACCFA Governor Gregorio Reyes.

In the afternoon the President held his regular weekly press conference.

President Macapagal denied today charges that he was steering the country into a guided democracy, saying that he was in fact dedicated to making democracy here stronger.

He told his regular weekly press conference that he was "rather endeavoring with the indispensable basis of adherence to the Constitution to make democracy strong in this country."

The Chief Executive denied charges of his critics that he was using strong-arm methods and was plunging this country into a dictatorship or steering it toward guided democracy.

If his critics, the President said when asked to comment, meant the guided democracy as it was known in some countries, the answer is "definitely no."

The only country with guided democracy is Indonesia.

During the press conference the President announced the composition of the Philippine delegation to the United Nations general assembly which will be headed by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs. The other members of the delegation will be Ambassador Jacinto Borja, permanent Philippine delegate to the U.N., as vice-chairman, Senators Ferdinand Marcos and Lorenzo Sumulong, and Rep. Godofredo Ramos of Aklan, as members.



The President also reiterated his administration's policy toward Virginia leaf tobacco importation which was explained by Executive Secretary Salvador Mariño the other day in answer to attacks the Administration for its alleged attitude toward importation of the commodity.

The President said the policy, which would allow importation of tobacco as limited by a Supreme Court decision on the controversial importation on the Agro-Industrial corporation, should not be a subject of criticism.

He said all applications for importation were being studied by the different agencies concerned, like the Central Bank, the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration, and the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration. Any decision to import would be determined by the studies of these agencies of the government, the President said.

Asked what happened to his plan to sell the former presidential yacht *Lapu-Lapu*, the President said that during the bidding, only one bid was received and the offer was "clearly unacceptable." In view of the unlikelihood of an acceptable bid, the committee created to dispose of the vessel had recommended the return of the former Philippine navy flagship to the Navy. The recommendation was being studied, he said.

On the report that Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Salvador P. Lopez had claimed the Barong Tagalog was not the national costume, the President said he would not argue with his subordinate. But he said that his directive to all diplomatic agencies abroad to make it known that the Barong Tagalog was the national costume still stood.

The President told his press conference, "I've noticed that Undersecretary Lopez look handsomer in Barong Tagalog than in coat and tie."

**September 8.**—PRESIDENT arrived in Davao City about 12 o'clock noon today aboard the Philippine Airforce Fooker Friendship plane in one of his week-end out-of-town trips to regionalize Malacañang and bring the government closer to the people. Despite slight drizzle which developed as the presidential plane maneuvered for landing at the local Banggoy airport, the President was accorded a rousing welcome by a large crowd headed by Gov. Vicente Duterte, City Mayor Carmelo Porras of Davao, and local civic leaders.

Accompanying the President were Mrs. Macapagal, Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Undersecretary Rodolfo T. Canos of Health, and Gregorio Manongdo, Malacanang financial assistant.

From the airport, the President was whisked at the head of kilometer-long motorcade to the city where a *Te Deum* was sung in his honor. Then the President and the First Lady proceeded to the Insular Hotel where they were billeted.

In his unscheduled speech delivered at the inauguration of five-story science building of the Mindanao Colleges this evening, the President said that he and the members of his family will set personal example in the Administration's current drive for moral renaissance.

President Macapagal pledged anew that he will not enrich himself in office but will consecrate his energies solidly for the common welfare of our people.

The President observed that the 1961 elections showed that the Philippines has "democracy for the people" because in spite of the power and money of his opponents, he won because the people was on his side. He mentioned the privileged few who attained power and money through misuse of public trust and public funds, and said that he would fight these people to the bitter end so that such power and such funds could be utilized for the people's welfare.

This afternoon the President received several delegations from various Davao towns at his hotel suite. He also inducted officials of the Davao Boy Scout council headed by Rodolfo Sarenas and the local chapter officials of the Philippine Government Employees Association led by Simplicio Montano.

About 5 p.m. the President motored to the Davao Colleges for the inaugural ceremonies officiated by the First Lady. After dinner at the residence of Mayor Porras, the President was guest speaker before the convention of barrio lieutenants at the local PTA auditorium.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58(37), cccliii-ccclviii.

## **Official Week in Review: September 9 – September 15, 1962**

**September 9.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today a stream of callers at the Vinta room of the Davao Insular Hotel in keeping with his program of regionalizing Malacañang and bringing the government closer to the people.

The callers who saw the President in groups were composed of provincial and city officials and business and civic leaders of the province.

The local officials led by Gov. Vicente Duterte and Davao City Mayor Carmelo Porras, took up with the President matters affecting their respective localities.

The President also received Davao Vice-Gov. Manuel Sotto, Provincial Board Member Froculo Fuentes, local judges of first instance, and schools and health officials.

Matters affecting municipal level were brought to the attention of the President during the call made by the officers and members of the Davao Mayors League headed by Nabunturan Mayor Antonio Tulio, president of the association.

Following his conference with local provincial officials, the President received ranking Liberal Party leaders of the City and several fiber Producers of Davao. The group was accompanied by Vivencio Antonio, assistant general manager of the National Development Company, and NDC Directors Jose Pue and Agustin Casenas. Among the fiber producers who saw the President were Francisco Dizon, Herminio Saurez, Federico Puyod, and Rodolfo Tacasan.

The President also received the officers and members of the Philippine Veterans Legion, Davao Chapter, and the Federation of Farmers of Davao who asked for government assistance in the development of better irrigation systems in northern Mindanao.

The delegations of veterans and farmers were headed by Major Porfirio Jain, PVL president; Macario Bermudes, PVL vice-president; and Evaristo Austria and Timoteo MagdadaIo.

**September 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal has decided to stay in Davao City for another day after a visit which bore fruit in the affiliation of hundreds of Nacionalista leaders and followers to the Liberal Party.

He returned to Davao City with the First Lady from Mati town, where he crowned the fiesta queen, the first he crowned since he became Chief Executive. He spent the night there.

Early this morning President Macapagal, with the First Lady, Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, and Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, had breakfast at the vast farm of HansMenzi, *Manila Daily Bulletin* publisher.

After breakfast the First Couple Were shown around the citrus farm and were impressed by its research and development center as they viewed grape vines heavy with fruits. The President and the First Lady were also shown the citrus processing plant where he was briefed on the processes of packaging, coloring, and classifying of oranges.

From the farm, the Macapagals returned to the residence of Mayor Alberto Ravelo of Mati, where he inducted NP leaders by Mayor Ravelo himself into the LP. The Macapagals slept in Ravelo's residence in Mati last night.

Inducted into the LP were Mayors Ravelo, Oswaldo Barol of Lupon, Mati Vice-Mayor Senador Zamora, and the councilors of the various Davao towns; namely, Rafael Yap, Amado Viray, Ricarte Deyta, Serafin Visconde Aniceto Tuazon, Panlilio Cambing, and Luisito Rober, including some eight barrio lieutenants and NPs of note in the province.

The Macapagals arrived in Davao City at 10:30 a.m. aboard the presidential Fokker Friendship plane. The presidential entourage is scheduled to leave for Manila at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

At 4 p.m. the President and the First Lady sailed to the Aguinaldo pearl farm, where the Chief Executive continued to look into significant industries in Mindanao.

**September 11.**—BEFORE returning to Manila this morning the President and the First Lady had breakfast with Malacañang newsmen who accompanied him to his Davao trip. Also at the breakfast table at the Insular Hotel were Sen. and Mrs. Gaudencio Antonino. The Chief Executive briefed the newsmen on the controversial tobacco importation.

After his breakfast with Malacañang newsmen, the President boarded the presidential plane for Manila. The Fokker plane carrying the President and his party touched down at Nichol's air base at 12:15 this noon.

In the afternoon the President laid the cornerstone for the proposed Manila City Hospital along Dewey Boulevard.

President Macapagal hailed as a project which deserves all the encouragement and support from the national government the P5 million Manila hospital which will be constructed along Dewey Boulevard in honor of the late Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson.

"The project deserves not only the appreciation of the city population but also the encouragement and support from the national government," he said.

The President said he was interested in the project because "it is along the avowed objective of my administration to bring the government closer and to make it sensitive and responsive to the needs of the low and poor masses."

The Chief Executive spoke at ceremonies marking the laying of the cornerstone of the hospital which was a pet project of the late Mayor Lacson. The President laid the cornerstone shortly before he delivered his speech. He was assisted by the First Lady, Mayor Antonio Villegas, Vice-Mayor Herminio Astorga, Mrs. Luchi Lacson, Mrs. Lydia Villegas, and Mrs. Erlinda Astorga.

The President returned to Malacañang following the ceremonies and received Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, who saw him for last-minute instructions before leaving for New York to head the Philippine delegation to the United Nations.

After a brief rest the President motored to the Congressional Club in Pasay City to greet Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal and Senator Ferdinand E. Marcos on the occasion of their birthday today.

**September 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal held today a round of conference with congressmen and provincial officials on public works projects and other matters affecting their respective regions.

Rep. Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan met with the President on the implementation of the Central Luzon Development Authority and the conversion of the Abulog and Chica River irrigations into a multi-purpose project. He also saw the President on the construction of the Bunton, Lucban, and Pamplona bridges and the asphaltting of roads in his district.

With Rep Ligot were Mayors Agustin Palattao of Enrile, Marcelino Collado of Ballesteros, Pedro Lapazo of Claveria, Nicolas Aquino of Pamplona, Iluminado Madamta of Langan, Francisco Mamba of Tuao, Justo Caronan of Solana, Gaspar Hernandez of Piat, Leandro Pagurayan of Faire Leopoldo Littana of Rizal, Remigio Arellano of Allacapan, Isaac Agatep of Lasan, Apo Ionio Reyes of Tuguegarao, Ramon Aquino of Sanchez Mira, Eliodoro Lorenzo of Abulog, and former Mayor Juan Baligod of Tuao.

Other provincial officials who saw the President were Govs. Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, Pedro Dizon of Bataan, and Guadalupe Adaza of Zamboanga del Norte, and Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental.

Other congressmen who met with the Chief Executive were Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, Jovito Salonga and Rufino Antonio of Rizal, Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Norte, Pablo Sanidad of Ilocos Sur, Manuel T. Cases of La Union, Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, Teodulo Natividad of Bulacan, Emilo Cortez and Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Amadeo Perez of Pangasinan, Venancio Ziga and Josefina Duran of Albay, Eladio Balite of Samar, Rascid Lucman of Lanao del Norte, Felipe Abeleda of Mondoro Oriental, Virgilio Afable of Zambales, Felipe Abrigo of Leyte, Maximino Noel and Tereso Dumon of Cebu, Salih Ututalum of Lanao del Sur, Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte, and Jose Abad of Batanes.

Earlier this morning the President received Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, who called on him for final instructions before leaving this evening as head of the Philippine delegation to the United Nations. The Vice-President came with Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez.

The Chief Executive also gave an interview to Tetsuya Ueda and Shizno Kimura of the Nippon TV Network.

In the afternoon the President received Sens. Gaudencio Antonino, Mariano J. Cuenco, and Eulogio Balao and Gov. Arsenio Villarosa of Mindoro Occidental.

The President administered this afternoon the oath of office to three new government officials.

Former Nueva Vizcaya Gov. Jose Espino took his oath as administrator of the Land Tenure Administration. Espino is at present also a director of the Philippine Homesite and Housing Corporation.

Mrs. Corazon Espino, in a ceremony following her husband's oath-taking, was sworn in as acting governor of Nueva Vizcaya in place of her husband. Mrs. Corazon Espino was elevated from her position as senior board member to acting governor.

The oath-taking ceremonies for Administrator Jose Espino and Mrs. Corazon Espino was witnessed by ranking officials from Nueva Vizcaya, the PHHC, and the Land Tenure Administration.

The President also swore into office Mayor George L. Young and Francisco Abuel as mayor and vice-mayor, respectively, of the newly-created municipality of Plaridel, Quezon.

President Macapagal signed, todayan administrative order creating a committee to take charge of arrangements in connection with the forthcoming state visits of President Adolfo Lopez Mateo of Mexico and Crown Prince Akihito of Japan.

President Mateo will make a three-day state visit to the Philippines on October 20-23, while Crown Prince Akihito will be a state guest from November 5 to November 10.

Designated chairman of the presidential committee is Education Secretary Alejandro Roces, with Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez, Defense Undersecretary Alberto De Joya, Labor Undersecretary Bernardo Abes, Ambassador Librado Cayco, Benigno Toda, Jr., chairman of the PAL board of directors, Miss Conchita Sunico, and a representative of the visitors diplomatic missions, as members.

**September 13.**—THIS morning President and Mrs. Macapagal honored with a breakfast four persons who had performed acts of honesty. The group brought to 15 the number of persons so honored by the First couple to emphasize the value of honesty as a virtue, and as part of the Administration's drive to bring about a desirable atmosphere for the implementation of the socio-economic program.

Honored this morning were Victorino Dayab, a clerk in the Bureau of Posts; Julieta A. Cruz, an employee of the auditor's office in Malacañang; Andres Espinosa, a bus conductor of the Philippine Rabbit Bus Company; and Alfonso Gole, a clerk in the San Miguel Brewery.

Dayao found an unsealed letter containing P1.50 cash which was inadvertently dropped in a mail box at the lobby of the post office, while Cruz found a wallet containing P96 in front of the Malacañang Press Office.

Espinosa found a luggage left behind in his bus by a student from the University of Sto. Tomas containing clothes and valuables, while Gole found an envelope with P16 cash on Tanduay Street. In all cases the finds were returned to their respective owners.

In his talk with the honorees the President expressed gratification that more and more people are realizing that joy in this life could be derived from spiritual and moral satisfaction and not from material wealth alone. The Chief Executive said that Filipinos are, by nature, honest. However, he said, the war brought a change in the sense of values of the people because of the miserable life at that time.

Somehow, he said, this wrong sense of values still persists at present. Hence, the need, to veer the people's conduct towards integrity and uprightness, he said.

Following the breakfast the Chief Executive met with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal and Rep. Tobias Fornier of Antique.

He also received Supreme Court Justice Roberto Regala and Rep. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga.

In the afternoon the President motored to the V. Luna Hospital in Quezon City and visited his aunt, Mrs. Andrea Sangalang, who has been confined in the hospital for some time now.

This evening President Macapagal created a five-man committee to be headed by Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag to conduct the public bidding on the exportation of tobacco surplus and the limited importation of Virginia leaf for blending purposes.

The Chief Executive took this step following his approval of the recommendations of the three-man committee composed of Liwag, Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, and acting Central Bank Gov. Amado Briñas. Named members of the five-man committee were Hechanova, National Economic Council Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, and Briñas.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., said the committee will formulate the rules on how the public bidding will be conducted. At the same time, he said the announcement of the date, place, and manner of bidding will be carried in prominent advertisements in all the newspapers.

The Press Secretary said the President gave his nod to the recommendation to export the surplus in locally-grown tobacco in order to dispose of the huge accumulated stocks of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration and the ACCFA amounting to more than 60 million kilos and, at the same time, to help these two government agencies to liquidate partially their debts with the Central Bank which amount to more than P250 million.

President Macapagal issued an executive order opening the port of Claveria, Cagayan, as a sub-port of entry, Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., announced today.

According to Executive Order No. 19 signed by the President last night, the newly-established sub-port of entry shall be within the collection district or Aparri, in Cagayan province.

**September 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met today with some officials of government corporations on matters concerning their offices.

Those who conferred with the Chief Executive were Chairman Luis Lopez of the Philippine Sugar Institute, PNB Director Gerry Rodriguez, Monetary Board Member Ernesto Santos, and Chairman Manuel Roxas of Manila Hotel.

Earlier this morning the President received Pakistan Ambassador Abdul M. Malik, who presented to him a 25-minute 16-mm film on his recent state visit to Pakistan.

The President also received PHILCOA Chairman and General Manager Domingo Abadilla, who reported on the results of the recently-concluded first meeting of the ASA committee, on primary commodities at Kuala Lumpur. Abadilla led the Philippine delegation to the conference.

In the afternoon the President held his regular weekly press conference at Malacañang.

The President lashed out at Supreme Court Justice Jose B. L. Reyes, whom he accused of having “gone too far” in “censuring my own conduct” in the case of suspended Chairman Paulino J. Garcia of the National Silence Development Board.

The Chief Executive was referring to Justice Reyes’s ‘concurring opinion to the high court’s verdict ordering the immediate reinstatement of Dr. Garcia in which the magistrate observed that the President had prejudged the administrative case.

In a statement he read to newsmen at his weekly conference President Macapagal vowed to comply with the tribunal’s decision but took stern exceptions to Justice Reyes’s statements in his concurring opinion.

“Any justice who unduly attacks the President of the Republic,” he fumed, “detracts from the prestige of the Supreme Court which should be held high at all times.”

“If a justice gratuitously prejudges the mind and good faith of others, he is opening the door to a suspicion of his own impartiality and good faith,” the President said, adding:

“In this case, for instance, it is plausible that there is less reasons to prejudge the mind and good faith of the President than the mind and partiality of the justice who is a long-standing and ideological colleagues of the respondent, Dr. Garcia, in the Civil Liberties Union, who, despite such extraordinary association, has not seen fit to inhibit himself from a case affecting the juridical as distinguished from the ideological and emotional standards of civil liberties.”

The President signed today a proclamation declaring Wednesday, September 19, 1962, as Law Day throughout the Philippines.

In his proclamation the President cited the important role played by thousands of lawyers in the administration of justice which is vital, not only in the promotion of the government’s socio-economic development program but also in bringing about a sound and vigorous democracy to our country and people.

The President also urged all bar and lawyers’ associations in the country to observe the day with appropriate and fitting ceremonies.

**September 15.**—THE President declared today that in the process of rediscovering its national identity and asserting its rights as an independent state, the Philippines has no intention of exacerbating its historic ties of friendship with the United States.

“Our aim has been to strengthen these relations on the basis of mutual respect, regard, and affection so that in the future we can maximize domains of cooperative effort for mutual benefit and minimize the occasions of needless understanding,” he said.

The President spoke before a big crowd that attended the dedication and inauguration ceremonies of the Fil-Am Youth Center in Olongapo, Zambales

Of the Youth Center, the President said it is “a practical symbol of the fruitful cooperation between Americans and Filipinos and should serve to foster cordial relations between our two peoples.”

The President, accompanied by Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal, arrived on board the Fokker plane at Cubi Point at 9:20 a.m. following a smooth, 20 minute flight from Manila. They were met by ranking officials of the U.S. Naval Base in Subic led by Rear Admiral R. T. Whitaker, base commander.

The President and the First Lady were “piped aboard” as they got down from the plane and walked past a platoon of U.S. navy men garbed in their natty “dress whites.”

From the Cubi airstrip, the Chief Executive motored to the base administration building where he received full military honors, including a 21-gun salute, tendered by a company of U.S. Marines. Before the military rites, the President briefly broke away from the side of Admiral Whitaker to shake the hands of dependents of U.S. naval personnel in Subic who cheered him as he arrived.

The President and the First Lady were met by top provincial officials of Zambales and Bataan at the base administration building. Among those who met them were Zambales Gov. Manuel Barretto, Bataan Gov. Pedro Dizon, Olongapo Mayor James Gordon, and Rep. and Mrs. Virgilio Afable.

After the military rites the President rode at the head of a motorcade to Olongapo for the inauguration of the newly-constructed P218 million Fil-Am Youth Center. Some 10,000 flag-waving and cheering people from Olongapo and neighboring towns hailed the President and the First Lady as they passed by on their way to the Youth Center.

Mrs. Macapagal officiated at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Youth Center while Mesdames Virgilio Afable, R. T. Whitaker, Manuel Barretto, and James Gordon unveiled the dedicatory plaque.

The President delivered his speech at the brief program held inside the Youth Center following his introduction by Gov. Barretto.

From the Youth Center, the President and the First Lady, along with the other guests for the inauguration, motored back to Subic base, where a reception was held at the Subic Officers Club. The reception was followed by a luncheon during which the President delivered brief remarks on Philippine-American relations. He received from Admiral Whitaker a plaque embossed with a seal of the Subic Naval base and on which was inscribed a short text touching on the significance of the President and Mrs. Macapagal’s visit to Subic Bay.

After the luncheon the President and the First Lady went on a short tour of the base and inspected facilities at the base hospital. They enplaned for Manila shortly before 3 p.m. after departure rites at Cubi Point, arriving in Malacañang at 3:55 p.m.

The Chief Executive directed today Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevosio to speed up the reforestation of the country to prevent destructive floods which cause heavy tolls in lives and property.

Acting favorably on the reforestation program of the Emergency Employment Administration submitted to him by Adevosio, the President instructed Adevosio, who is concurrently acting EEA administrator, to hasten the planting of tree seedlings in denuded mountains and areas of the country. He directed Adevosio to “complement” the work of the Reforestation Administration for a speedier and more effective reforestation of the country.

The President explained that immediate reforestation is necessary not only to prevent destructive floods but also to conserve the wealth of the country’s natural resources.



*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58(38), ccclxi-ccclxvi.

## **Official Week in Review: September 16 – September 22, 1962**

**September 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent a quiet day this day and took advantage of the week-end to go over pending state papers.

He signed a proclamation declaring September 17 this year as a special public holiday in Tarlac province in commemoration of the birthday of General Francisco Makabulos.

The President also went over complaints of increasing criminality in Manila and suburbs, and decided to relieve retired Brig. Gen. Marcos Soliman as chief of police of the city.

President Macapagal relieved Gen. Marcos Soliman as chief of the Manila police department and designated in his place Director of Prisons Eduardo Quintos, once police chief during the past Liberal Party administration.

With the revamp, Soliman will devote his full time as head of the national intelligence coordinating agency, of which he was concurrently the chief.

Quintos was replaced by Felix Amante, acting chairman of the presidential anti-graft committee. Until a replacement for Amante is found, he will continue to head the committee.

In announcing the reshuffle, Malacañang said President Macapagal wanted Soliman to give his full time to the N.I.C.A., as the Chief Executive wanted “a day-by-day appraisal of the tense world situation, particularly the furor over Cuba.”

Malacañang also said that Soliman had asked the President on several occasions to relieve him as police chief, as his other job demanded much of his time and energy.

The general, according to Malacañang, had told the President that his N.I.C.A. job required him to attend conferences abroad which he could not attend because of his job as police chief.

In the afternoon the President, together with the members of his family, heard mass at the Malacañang chapel.

**September 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal inducted today Prisons Director Eduardo Quintos as chief of police of Manila, vice Brig. Gen. Marcos Soliman, who remains chief of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency.

Present at the oath-taking ceremony held at the President’s study room early this afternoon were Mayor Antonio Villegas; Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.; Labor Undersecretary Bernardino Abes; Mrs. Quintos; Pampanga Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno; Councilors A. V. Villacorta, Juan Baluyot, Leonardo Fugoso, and Sergio Loyola; and close friends and relatives of the inductee.

This morning the President held a series of conferences with the following provincial governors who called at the Palace for consultations on local problems and public works projects in their respective provinces.

Govs. Corazon Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Dominador S. de Asis of Camarines Norte, Romualdo Vargas of Quezon, Eulogio de Guzman of La Union, Francisco Villanueva of Capiz, Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur, Alfonso Dadole of Misamis Oriental, Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, Rodolfo Ignacio of Oriental Mindoro, Guideon Quijano of Occidental Misamis, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, and Melanio T. Singson of Isabela; and Vice-Govs. Serapeon Cribbe, Jr., of Camarines Norte and Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental.

With Gov. Frivaldo in seeing the President was Carlos Sto. Domingo. Gov. Singson was accompanied by Mayors Ricardo Paguirigan of Ilagan and Celedonio Magbaleta of Alicia; Ilagan Vice-Mayor Pedro Mamuri; Councilors Efren Lamorana Crispin Nuñez, Teodulo Mirasol, Antonio Tarampi; Nicolas Baggao, Justito Madduma and Bernardo Talattad and Alicia Vice-Mayor Juan M. Valdez.

In the afternoon the President was interviewed by George E. Jones, an American correspondent of the *U. S. Laws and World Report*.

The President had a conference with NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Reparations Commissioner Calixto Zaldivar and ACCFA Board Chairman Armand Fabella.

The President also conferred with Sen. Gaudencio Antonino and Mayor Antonio Tulio, president of the Davao Mayor's League, on problems affecting the province of Davao.

President Macapagal issued today an administrative order creating a committee to take charge of all arrangements for state visits to the Philippines of foreign dignitaries.

Under Administrative Order No. 22, which was signed by the President this afternoon the committee will be responsible for the planning, coordination, and smooth execution of all arrangements, including the reception, stay, and departure of the state guests.

It is authorized to call upon any office or instrumentality of the government, including government-owned or controlled corporations for such assistance as it may need in the discharge of its duties and functions.

The committee is composed of Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces as chairman and the following members; Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez, Defense Undersecretary Alberto de Joya, labor Undersecretary Bernardino Abes, Ambassador Librado Cayco, Benigno Toda Jr., Miss Conchita Sunico, the President of the National Press Club and a representative of the visitor's diplomatic mission or country. Ambassador Manuel G. Zamora. Malacañang protocol officer was designated member-secretary of the committee.

The President also signed a proclamation declaring September 27, as a special public holiday in the province of Batangas and Lipa City in commemoration of the birth anniversary of Miguel Malvar the last Filipino general to surrender to the Americans during the Filipino-American war.

The President ordered today the dismissal of a justice of the peace who has been found guilty of administrative charges filed against him.

Ordered dismissed was Judge Albino L. Pizzaro of the justice of the peace court of Torrijos, Marinduque. He has been found guilty of gross negligence for the loss of the records of a criminal case in his court and of arbitrariness for committing to prison municipal janitor who had failed to clean the respondent's courtroom.

Judge Pizzaro is considered resigned and separated as justice of the peace of Torrijos, Marinduque, effective upon receipt of a copy of the administrative order.

**September 18.**—THE President did not receive callers in Malacañang the whole morning as he went over his two speeches to be delivered this evening.

President Macapagal told the nation this evening that in all cases in which the Supreme Court had decided against him, he had merely warned legal questions to be resolved.

Speaking at his fortnightly radio-television program. "President Macapagal-Speaks to the Masses, the Chief Executive said:

"In our administration when we take a case to the Supreme Court it is not necessarily that we stake our knowledge of the law but that we have doubts about the current construction of the law and that it is necessary for the good of the people that the Supreme Court resolve the doubt, being always ready on our part to accept and be guided by the court's final decision."

In his speech the President also:

1. Appealed to all sectors of the country to help him in insuring! a better life for the people;
2. Denied anew that he was steering the country toward dictatorship; and
3. Reiterated he was not against criticism so long as it was constructive and was not insulting.

One of the basic attitudes of his administration, the President said, was that it was not content, in public matters, with legality alone. Morality came first, he said.

In fact, the President said, on any public matter his first question would be if it was moral. If he was satisfied as to its morality, then, the question of legality came next into consideration, he said.

If there was doubt to its legality, and the national interest was involved, then the matter should be taken to court with the attitude that he would abide by the decision of the court, he said.

“This is the reason we have not been fearful of being overruled by the Supreme Court,” the President said. “To us, it is not a question of prestige but a means of seeking ways of strengthening the democratic mechanism in order to serve effectively our people.’-”

It was for this reason, he said, that he brought to court or allowed to be brought to court such issues as his annulment of the midnight appointments of former President Garcia, the controversial Agro-Industrial tobacco importation, the Querubin reinstatement case which resulted from his annulment order, and the Commission on Elections squabble.

The necessity and wisdom of his attitude, he said, might be shown in his suspension of top National Rice and Corn Corporation officials; although its legality was doubtful, leaving them to bring the matter to court.

As a result of his action, he said, “the rice problem has been licked because whereas during this period of last year, rice when available, was sold from P1.50 to P3 a ganta, prices beyond the reach of the masses, today there is plentiful rice available, from P.85 to P.90 a ganta, to the poor.”

Appealing to the people for support, especially for his socio-economic program, the President assured them that he wanted nothing for himself and his family. All he wanted, he said, was for the people to be given a better life.

“Others may believe themselves better than us but as long as we are President, we should be given full opportunity to carry out our task since it is to us that the people have entrusted this responsibility during our term of office,” the President said.

He called on his fellow-politicians to “bear with us.” His policies might diminish their power and opportunities for material aggrandizement, but in the end, they and the people would be the beneficiaries. For one thing, he said, the cost of running for office will be less than that of 1963. “Above all, in losing the undue privileges enjoyed in the past, there will be the richly gratifying feeling that we are contributing to the building of a better nation,” he said.

This evening President Macapagal also addressed the fourth biennial convention of the Federation of Chinese Chambers of Commerce and defined his policy which will govern Filipino-Chinese relationship in the country.

It was the first appearance of the President before a Chinese group since his assumption of the presidency.

His address cleared the atmosphere on his policy of dealing with Chinese in the country. He had previously ordered punitive action against wealthy Chinese businessmen in the Philippines and booked several of them for deportation.

**September 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal swore in today retired Civil Service Commissioner Amado del Rosario as district judge for Quezon Province and Lucena City in a ceremony held at the reception hall in Malacañang.

Present at the induction were Mrs. Nieves Baens del Rosario; the inductee's children, Benjamin, Florentino, and Lourdes; and close friends.

Following the induction, the President met with members of Congress who called on him for consultations on problems and public works projects in their respective districts.

Those who conferred with the Chief Executive were Majority Floor Trader Justiniano Montano, Reps. Eladio Caliwara of Quezon, Pedro Trono of Iloilo, Emilio Cortez and Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga; Dominador Tan and Primo A. Villasin of Leyte, Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon, Guillermo Sambo of Misamis Occidental, Teodulo Natividad of Bulacan, Manuel Zosa, Tereso Dumon, and Ramon Durano of Cebu, Virgilio Afable of Zambales, Rascid Lucman of Lanao del Sur, Manuel T. Cases of La Union, Luis Hora of Mt. Province, Antonio Raquiza and Simeon Valdez of Ilocos Norte, Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Tito Dupaya and Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, Amadeo Perez of Pangasinan, Rufino Antonio of Rizal, Venancio Ziga of Albay, and Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte.

In the course of his crowded schedule this morning, the President received the following heirs of the Sultan of Sulu who called to thank him for the interest taken by the government on the North Borneo question: Sultan E. Kiram, Princess Tarhata Kiram-Salvador and Francisco Salvador, Sultan Mohammad Ismael Kiram, Fatima Uzman, Angeles Sangkalang, and Datu Ahmad Badaruddin. They were accompanied by Foreign Affairs Acting Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Ambassador Eduardo Quintero, Abraham Rasul, and Asaad Usman.

The Chief Executive also received the Philippine delegation to the 8th Asian Peoples' Anti-Communist League (APACL) conference to be held in Tokyo from October 1 to 5. Led by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, chairman of the delegation, they called on the President for final instructions on the stand of the local APACL chapter on vital issues to be taken up in the conference.

In the group were Rep. Ramon Bagatsing, delegation vice-chairman; Majors Constante Ma. Cruz and Medardo T. Justiniano, Antonio Meer, Cua Siok Poo, and Yao Shiong Shio.

The Philippine golf team composed of Skip Guinto Dindo Gonzalez, Alex Montelibano, Alex Prieto, Vi Villalon, and Luis Silverio also paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive before departing for Tokyo, Japan to compete in the World Amateur Golf Championship which starts October 4.

In the afternoon the President received General Maxwell Taylor, chairman of the United States' Joint Chiefs of Staff, who arrived in Manila early this afternoon.

During his call which lasted about 20 minutes, Gen. Maxwell reported to the President in his impressions gathered during his visits to Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Korea, Japan, and Indonesia. He said the situation in this part of the world is generally good for the Free World.

The President thanked the U.S. general for his report. He assured him that the United States can depend on the Philippines to do its part in the preservation of democracy in this region.

Accompanied by Minister Gordon Mein, charge d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Manila, and Rear Admiral David Welsh, commander of the U.S. naval forces in the Philippines, Gen. Taylor arrived at Malacañang about 4:20 p.m. Also with the visiting general were Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr. Lieut. Gen. Alfredo Santos, and Foreign Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez, who met Gen. Taylor at the airport.

The President received the general at his study. The call lasted up to 4:40 p.m.

**September 20.**—THIS morning President Macapagal was guest of honor at the opening of the five-day 13th session of the World Health Organization regional' committee for the Western Pacific at the WHO building on Isaac Peral.

In his speech the President underscored the importance of national health to the economic and political stability of a country. It is for this reason, the President said, that his administration has given health high priority in the formulation of public policies.

The Chief Executive was fetched from Malacañang by Health Secretary Francisco Q. Duque, arriving at the WHO building at exactly 9 a.m. He was accompanied by Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal. On hand to greet the President and the First Lady were Dr. I. C. Fang; WHO regional director, and delegates from 16 participating countries.

The opening of the session was preceded by the raising of the flags of the participating countries.

After delivering his speech the President returned to Malacañang at 10:10 a.m.

In the afternoon the President received British Ambassador John A. Pilcher, who presented P10,000 on behalf of Messrs. Lawrence and Horace Kadoorie of Hongkong, RM awardees for 1962 for the reconstruction of the Alno Elementary School in La Trinidad, Mountain Province. The amount represented part of the monetary award the Kadoorie brothers received from the RM foundation.

The President continued his drive against undesirable aliens when he ordered the deportation today of nine-aliens who had been convicted for violation of the opium law.

Ordered deported were:

1. Sy Leng chun, *alias* "Tama," who was sentenced to four months imprisonment and to pay a fine of P300;
2. Pilar Tan, who was sentenced to four months imprisonment and. to pay a fine of P1,000;
3. Li Eng Kuy, who was sentenced to eight months and 21 days imprisonment and to pay a fine of P1,000 with subsidiary imprisonment in case of insolvency;
4. Go Chong Him, who was sentenced to 10 months imprisonment and to pay the proportionate part of the cost of the trial;
5. Chan Suy Ko, who was sentenced to two months imprisonment and to pay a fine of P300;
6. Sy Gan, who was sentenced to two months imprisonment and to pay a fine of P300;
7. Cheung Fay, who was sentenced to two months imprisonment and to pay a fine of P300;
8. Wong Ka, who was sentenced to four months imprisonment and to pay a fine of P2,000; and
9. Seto See, who was sentenced to four months imprisonment and; to pay a fine of P2,000.

Pilar Tan, the lone female of the deportees, pleaded in court that she be allowed to stay in this country where she was born. She said she does not have any relatives and does not know anybody in China.

The President, in his deportation orders, said the continued presence of these aliens in the country is inimical to the public interest.

**September 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal reassured today the tenants of the Canlubang estate that the Administration would extend to them all possible assistance in case the government eventually acquires the agricultural portion of the Yulo hacienda.

The Chief Executive gave the reassurance in a talk this morning with a Canlubang delegation headed by Moises Tolentino, president of barrio lieutenants' association, and Antonio Viray, a labor leader, who called at Malacañang to reiterate their appeal that the President recall his directive for the recovery by the government of 4,778 hectares of the estate.

Others in the group were Conrado Velarde, Crisanto Acosta, Teodorico Acosta, Teodorico Garcia, Arcadio Bernarte, Irineo Recio, Eustaquio Magnaje, Alejandro Perez, and Paulino Tenorio.

The President received this morning a report on the extent of the areas in the Bicol region affected by the *cadang-cadang* disease, from PHILCOA Chairman and General Manager Domingo Abadilla and Dean Dioscoro Umali of the UP.

They informed the President that the plant malady has caused damage worth P30 million annually and that an estimated 10 million coconut trees are affected at present.

Expressing belief that the dreaded coconut disease is caused by a virus, they told the Chief Executive that the slide agglutination tests being conducted jointly by the University of the Philippines, the Bureau of Plant Industry, and the Philippine Coconut Administration may yet prove to be a breakthrough in researches being undertaken to combat the coconut malady.

To prevent the spread of the disease Domingo and Umali proposed (1) the establishment of mobile teams to inspect affected trees; (2) the formation of a labor battalion to undertake spraying of coconut trees; and (3) quarantine measures to prevent transfer of affected coconut trees to unaffected regions.

In the course of his busy schedule this morning, the President received Davao City ex-Mayor Rodolfo Sarenas, Gabriel Daza, Antonio Delgado, Godofredo Neric, Capt. Roberto Lim, and Florencio Tamesis, Sr.—executive board members of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, who informed him of the progress of BSP projects connected with his socio-economic program, especially in the development of Mindanao.

The President also received George Cohen, Carlos Valdes, Francisco Lopez, and Fermin Dabu of the Robot Statistics.

Earlier this morning the President met with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal and Reps. Tereso Dumon and Eugenio Baltao (Liberals), and Jose Aldeguer and Lorenzo Teves (Nacionalistas), who are leaving tomorrow on a mission to Southeast Asian countries like Indonesia, Malaya, Singapore, South Vietnam, Thailand, and Taipeh.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive presided over his regular weekly press conference.

He then administered the oath of office to former Tourism Commissioner Modesto Farolan as Philippine Ambassador to South Vietnam. Present at the induction ceremony held at Malacañang's reception hall were Senators Ferdinand Marcos and Gaudencio Antonino, Rep. Antonio Raquiza, NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, daughters Pati and Nenita, and close relatives and friends.

At his regular press conference, the President underscored his policy against maintaining diplomatic relations with communist countries.

The President said he has ordered a re-examination of Philippine-Cuban relations and dropped broad hints of severing diplomatic ties with Fidel Castro's communist government.

“We have diplomatic relations with Cuba, he said, “and it is not so easy to break diplomatic ties with any country.”

The President said he has directed the foreign office to watch closely international developments which has thrown Cuba into the world spotlight and where Russia is reported to be building up Castro’s military forces.

“Should a change in the situation comes,” the President told newsmen, “we will act accordingly.”

At his weekly session with the press, the President also:

1. Denied reports of “negotiations” towards a reconciliation with former Speaker Jose Yulo;
2. Hit anew Sen. Fernando Lopez for drawing an analogy between him and Fidel Castro;
3. Said he will consider seriously a move to increase the salaries of Army officers;
4. Endorsed Customs Commissioner Cesar Climaco’s work at the Bureau of Customs for enforcing the law “equally to all;”
5. Denied he has been rebuffed by the Supreme Court in four cases; and
6. Promised to act immediately on the petition of the National Press Club for the list of newsmen in the payroll of deported American millionaire Harry S. Stonehill.

**September 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led thousands of pilgrims and devotees in paying homage to Bicolandia’s patroness, the blessed Virgin of Peñafrancia, in the course of his trip to Naga City and Camarines Norte in pursuance of his program of regionalizing Malacañang.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, arrived in Naga on board a special train at 8 this morning. On hand to greet the First Couple at the railroad station was a big enthusiastic crowd led by Gov. Apolonio Maleniza, Mayor Victoriano Ojeda, Reps. Felix Fuentebella and Venancio Ziga, and PHHC Administrator Esmeraldo Eco.

After receiving military honors from a battalion of ROTC cadets from the University of Nueva Caceres, the President and the First Lady rode at the head of a motorcade to the City’s plaza where an hour-long parade was held. From the parade grounds, the First Couple proceeded to nearby Naga Metropolitan Cathedral where *Te Deum* was sung.

After the *Te Deum* the First Couple were entertained with cocktail by Archbishop Santos at the Archbishop’s Palace. They then motored to Gov. Maleniza’s residence where they had lunch after a brief talk with the governor and municipal officials and an impromptu conference with Manila newsmen accompanying them.

In his talk with provincial and municipal officials, the President said Philippine economy could now move along and take care of itself now, that his administration has completed successfully a shift from controlled to free economy. The shift was accomplished, he said, without inflicting much difficulty to the people, contrary to apprehensions of opposing economists.

The President also said the successful program has placed the country in high economic standing among other nations. He said the shift from controlled to free economy also has generated production of more export products and at the same time cut short importation.

The President also discussed with provincial and municipal officials local problems and public works projects as they are related to his socioeconomic program.



Shortly after lunch at the Governor's residence, the First Couple went to the residence of Dr. Floro Dabu, where they had a brief rest, and watched the procession from the Cathedral.

After the procession had passed by, the President and the First Lady motored to Peñafrancia Bridge to watch the fluvial parade where hundreds of barefooted men jostled each other to be able to bear the statue of the blessed Virgin. After watching the fluvial parade the President talked with city Liberal leaders at a *merienda* at the Catholic Youth Center.

In the afternoon President Macapagal attended the cultural arts exhibit at the local parochial school. The presidential party is scheduled to leave for Manila at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58(39), ccclxix-ccclxxv.

**President's Week in Review: October 1-13, 1962**

## **Official Week in Review: September 23 – September 29, 1962**

**September 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned at 6:15 last evening aboard a special train from Naga City, where he led thousands of devotees in paying homage to Our Lady of Peñafrancia.

Accompanied by the First Lady and Malacañang newsmen, the President alighted at a stationless area near the Magsaysay superhighway and Epifanio de los Santos Avenue. Then he boarded his car to Malacañang, passing through Dewey Boulevard.

The President left Naga City at 9:15 a.m. for Manila. He woke up early this morning to hear mass at the Peñafrancia Church. It was the traditional Peñafrancia festival, the “holiday of holidays” in the whole Bicol regions.

The President slept at the residence of his friends. Dr. Dabu in Naga City. Dr Dabu is his townsfolk from Lubao, Pampanga.

From the Peñafrancia Church, the President and the First Lady returned to the residence of Dr. Dabu where they had breakfast.

The President stayed most of the time in the presidential coach where he went over pending state papers. He also met newsmen on the train when it was nearing Manila.

Commenting on his visit to Naga, the President said that he was happy to report that the people in Camarines Sur have doubled their income as evidenced by the large turnout from all the Bicol provinces at the Peñafrancia festival.

In a brief interview on board the presidential train on the way to Manila from Naga City, the President said he is interested in looking into the angle that the series of crimes in Manila is being perpetrated by ex-convicts.

The President said he is not sure whether there is really a crime wave in the city. He said a Manila councilor has told him that there was no such thing and that the newspapers have only been reporting crimes “in screaming headlines.”

He said he is meeting MPD Chief Eduardo Quintos to determine the cause of the series of crimes in Manila, because, “once we know the cause we will know what measures to take to solve the problem.” The President also:

1. Said he expects to get the foreign office recommendation for solving the problem of the 2,700 overstaying Chinese and on the proposed renegotiation of the Philippine-Japanese treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation upon the return of Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez from his UN assignment;
2. Denied the claim of Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez that he had defended the acquisition of the controversial portion of former Speaker Jose Yulo’s Canlubang estate in the 1957 election when he was Mr. Yolo’s running mate; and
3. Said that Nacionalistas all over the country are ready to join the Liberal Party but gave assurance that the two-party system “is here to stay with us.”

The President said he will ask the MPD chief about the extent of crimes being pulled by ex-convicts. He said this is worth looking into because ex-convicts find it hard to get a job.

He also recalled that during the 1961 presidential campaign he received a report that thousands of convicts were pardoned by the Administration without the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

**September 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred today with provincial and city officials on matters affecting their respective cities and provinces.

First to meet with the Chief Executive were Zambales Gov. Manuel Barretto and Rep. Virgilio Afable. They appraised the President of the extent of damage to public and private properties caused by typhoons during the past months and the need for national aid for rehabilitation purposes by the province of Zambales.

Bataan Gov. Pedro R. Dizon, whose province was one of those badly battered by typhoons this year, also saw the President for the same purpose.

Others who conferred with the Chief Executive were Govs. Dominador Danan of Pampanga, Benigno Aquino of Tarlac, Constantino Navarro of Surigao, Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, Corazon Espino of Nueva Vizcaya. Gideon G. Quijano of Misamis Oriental, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon. Rodolfo Ignacio of Oriental Mindoro, Romualdo Vargas of Quezon, and Melanio T. Singson of Isabela; Lt. Gov. Jose Neri of Camiguin; Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental; Manila Vice-Mayor Herminio Astorga; Councilors Juan Baluyot, Jose Sembrano, and Eriberto Remigio; Legaspi City Mayor Luis Los Baños; and Zamboanga City Councilor Juanita J. Enriquez.

With Gov. Vargas in seeing the President were Quezon Mayors Francisco Yngente of Lopez, Hubert Dator of Lucban, Godofredo M. Tan of San Narciso, Cristeto Generoso of Dolores. Bim Angara of Casiguran. Buenaventura Mopera of Polillo, Marcelino Parcero of Calauag, Julian Villamaler of Jomalig, Crispin A. Tena of Panukulan, Venancio N. Dia of Candelaria, Vicente Martinez of Pitogo, and Andres Remo of Sariaya.

In the group of Isabela Gov. Singson were Jones Acting Mayor Felicisima Agustin, Cauayan Councilor Faustino Dy, and Jones Councilors Espidio Barit, Erodito Ocampo, Florencio Guillermo, Matias R. Castro, Brigido Valenzuela, Jose Aguilar, Andres Pobre, Filemon Abad, Eufronio Tomaneng, Roman Tomaneng, Josefa Banigan, and Juanita Banigan.

Other callers included Rep. Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga. Carlos Sto. Domingo, and Majayjay Mayor Felix Gozo.

Earlier this morning the President received Dr. M. G. Candau, director general of the World Health Organization, who called to pay his respects before enplaning back for his headquarters in Geneva. Candau attended the opening of the 13th WHO regional conference in the Western Pacific now being held at the WHO building on Isaac Peral. Candau was accompanied in his call on the President by Health Secretary Francisco Q. Duque and WHO Regional Director Dr. I. C. Fang.

This afternoon the President attended a briefing on national security conducted by the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency at the NICA offices in Port Area.

The President pressed for an all-out war against smuggling as he ordered today the modernization of anti-smuggling equipment used by the Philippine Navy and Constabulary.

The President in a conference with Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevos, who is concurrently chairman of the Cabinet sub-committee on anti-smuggling, said the Administration's drive against untaxed goods in the markets must be pushed through relentlessly. He directed Adevos not to compromise in the prosecution of smugglers in order to discourage them from resuming their nefarious activities.

The President told Adevos that the latter's request for funds in modernize equipment used by the PC and the Navy will be favorably considered Adevos said he had requested P11 million from the President. He said the money would be used to purchase high-powered *paraos* for use in chasing smugglers and other equipment to facilitate the apprehension malefactors.

President Macapagal issued today proclamation declaring Friday, September 28, this year as a special public holiday in Camarines Norte in commemoration of the birthday anniversary of the late Wenceslao Q. Vinzons, one of the Philippines' outstanding heroes in the last war.

Former governor, representative, and delegate of the Constitutional Convention. Vinzon had been executed for refusing to cooperate with the Japanese forces of occupation during World War II.

The President issued the proclamation in view of the desire of the people of Vinzon's home province that they be afforded full opportunity to celebrate the day with appropriate ceremonies.

This evening the President ordered the reinstatement of Nacionalista Gov. Bienvenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur. The Chief Executive ordered the immediate reinstatement of Ebarle owing to the fact that former Assistant Solicitor, now Judge Florencio Villamor, who investigated the administrative case against the governor is not yet ready with his final report.

Judge Villamor has also been unable to inform the solicitor general's office and Malacañang as to when he will be able to make his final report and recommendation on the case against the Zamboanga del Sur provincial executive.

Owing to the indefinite time as to when the former assistant solicitor could submit his report, President Macapagal considered it but fair and just that as an elective public official, Ebarle should be allowed to serve his constituents.

Executive Secretary Salvador Mariño said the reinstatement order is without prejudice to the final disposition of the case against the governor.

Ebarle has been under preventive suspension since February 13, 1962.

**September 25.**—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Macapagal tendered today a despedida luncheon in honor of Vice-Admiral and Mrs. William A. Schoech, who are returning to Washington, D.C., tomorrow.

Schoech, commander of the United States' Seventh Fleet is proceeding to the U.S. capital for reassignment after a year's tour of duty as commander of the most powerful peacetime fleet in history. Schoech arrived in Manila yesterday aboard his flagship *USS Providence* for his last call as fleet commander.

The President and the Admiral exchanged parting gifts after the luncheon. The Chief Executive gave Schoech a box of Philippine cigars and a compilation of his speeches entitled *The Common Men*, while Schoech presented the President with a cigarette lighter, a cap and a plaque of the Seventh Fleet.

Present at the luncheon were Rear Admiral and Mrs. Ruben Whittaker, Defense Secretary and Mrs. Macario Peralta Jr., Rear Admiral and Mrs. David Welsh, Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Alfredo Santos, Major General and Mrs. Avelin Tacon and acting Philippine Navy Commander and Mr. Juan D. Magluyan.

In the afternoon the President went over pending state papers.

President Macapagal today directed Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño to look into cases of alleged harassment of Nacionalista officials by Malacañang. The President issued the order upon being informed that a spokesman of Senate President Rodriguez had already brought these cases to Mariño's attention.

Upon receipt of the order, Mariño said he would immediately look into the matter and see to it that the desire of the President to run the Administration in a non-partisan basis is not hampered.

"The President has pledged to run the Administration on a non-partisan basis," Mariño stressed, and he is determined to carry out this pledge."

"As a matter of fact it was the President himself who urged Sen. Rodriguez to bring these cases of alleged harassment to the Chief Executive's attention," the Executive Secretary stated.

This evening the President exposed grave concern over the reported eviction of Filipino in North Borneo.

Alarmed by the reports reaching Malacañang that Filipino national are being deported from North Borneo, the President summoned acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador Lopez to look deeper into the supposed ouster of Filipino settlers from the area which is now being disputed by the Philippine government.

“I hope that no such evictions are taking place or are being planned because such evictions would oblige the Philippine government to take all necessary measures to protect the interests of its nationals.” the President said.

The Chief Executive added that such evictions “would create further difficulties between two countries that have a duty to improve their relations as allies and friends.”

There were reports that the supposed deportation was allegedly resorted to by the British officials in the disputed area apparently in retaliation for the Philippine Government’s claims of sovereignty over the area.

**September 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was honored this morning with a testimonial parade and review by the Armed Forces of the Philippines at Camp Murphy, Quezon, City. The Chief Executive marks his 52nd birthday on Friday, September 28.

In his speech the President assured the country’s allies in the Free World that the Philippines is ready to contribute its share in the defense of democracy in this part of the world. He pointed out, however, that the threat to democracy in the Philippines is not only from ideological foes ”but also from those countrymen who would show concern over democracy with their words but endanger it with their deeds.”

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, was fetched from Malacañang at 8:40 this morning by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr. He was accorded military honors by a company of the AFP’s colorful cadet corps, including 21-gun salutes, on arrival and departure from the camp’s parade ground.

This morning’s program started with the President trooping the line of a composite division of AFP under the command of Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina.

Before delivering his speech the President pinned decorations on the following PC officers and men:

1. Capt. Diamongan Manongdato, who was awarded the Gold Cross medal, third highest military award, and the Wounded Personnel medal for conspicuous gallantry in action. Manongdato was in command of a Constabulary detachment in Siwarai Siocon, Zamboanga del Norte, when it was attacked by a 14 man-outlaw band last September 18. In the fierce hand-to-hand battle that ensued, Manongdato although wounded, he and his men killed all the outlaws.
2. Sgt. Remigio Mabagos, who was also a recipient of the Gold Cross medal for single-handedly capturing Benjamin Cunanan, *alias* Commander Hizon, in Tondo, Manila last September 17.
3. Capt. Apolinario de Guzman was awarded the Bronze medal for bravery. He killed an amok in spite of being wounded in a gun battle in Sulucan, Angat, Bulacan, on July 17, 1961.
4. Staff Sergeant Pedro Velanquez received the Military Commendation ribbon for exemplary efficiency and devotion to duty in special intelligence operations leading to the capture of Mariano Sison, *alias* Commander del Mar, last July 5.

After his speech the President repaired to the AFP’s Officers’ Club House where he received members of the Cabinet, the diplomatic corp. Congress, officers of the Armed Forces, and ranking officials of the government who extended their happy birthday greetings to him.

This afternoon, the President received senators, congressmen, and ranking government officials who greeted him in advance on the occasion of his birthday on September 28.

The senators and congressmen, who also consulted him on local problems, took the opportunity to express their felicitations since the President is expected to be out of town on his birthday.

Earlier the President and the First Lady received Prince and Princess Prem Purachatra of Thailand, who are on a tour of Southeast Asian countries.

During the courtesy call the Thai Prince and Princess presented English translations of Thai literature to the President and exquisitely woven Thai silk for the First Lady. Ambassador and Mrs. Rangsiyakorn of Thailand accompanied the Thai Prince and Princess.

President Macapagal also conferred with ranking officials of the University of the Philippines college of agriculture on the development program of the college. U.P. President Carlos P. Romulo informed the President of the findings of a team who looked into the expansion of the Agricultural College.

Dr. George F. Gant and Dr. Albert Moseman of the Ford and the Rockefeller foundations respectively, informed the President of the willingness of these organizations to help in the expansion of the college.

President Romulo said that an appropriation of P34 million will be needed for the expansion program of the U.P. A counterpart of P1.7 million from the Philippine government is needed.

Dean Charles Palm of Cornell University, New York State college of agriculture, said that a sister-university relationship with the U.P. college will be established.

Among the senators and congressmen who saw the President were Sens. Ferdinand Marcos, Maria Kalaw Katigbak, Gaudencio Antonino, and Ambrosio Padilla; Reps. Vincenzo Sagun, Tito Dupaya, Tobias Fornier, Salipada Pendatun, Justiniano Montano, Emilio Cortez, Marcial Pimentel, Albertio Ziga, Luciano Joson, Benjamin Ligot, and Manuel Cases.

Agricultural college representatives who conferred with the President included Dean Armando Fabella, Dr. Dioscoro Umali, Prof. Andres Aglibut, Dr. Nataniel Tablante, and Dr. Walter A. Rudlin of the Ford Foundation.

**September 27.**—THIS morning President Macapagal slipped out of Manila quietly and flew to an island-hideout, Hermana Mayor, to escape from any possible surprise birthday party. He is 52 years old tomorrow.

Taking the Philippine Air Force plane *Quezon*, the President accompanied by the First Lady and the three Macapagal children, took off at 8: 35 a.m. and landed at Hermana Mayor 50 minutes after. With the President were Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., Brig. Gen. Jonas Victoria, PAF chief, Civil Aeronautics Director Vicente Rivera, Jr., and the presidential air aide, Col. Victor Dizon.

Manila newspapermen covering the President flew ahead of the presidential party to Hermana Mayor.

The President was received by Mr. and Mrs. Benigno Toda, Jr., owner of the small island-hideout. Toda is also the chairman of the board of directors of the Philippine Air Lines.

Upon his arrival at Hermana Mayor, the President met newsmen and discussed with him his plans of achieving an era of prosperity in this country. The President said he hide away from Manila to escape from gift-bearing well-wishers.

The President brought a bundle of state papers and worked on them. He also wrote his birthday message and gave copies of it to newsmen who saw him at Hermana Mayor.

The President had lunch with the members of his family and Mr. and Mrs. Toda.

After lunch the President had a nap and then work on pending state papers.

President Macapagal issued the following birthday message to the nation at Hermana Mayor this day:

BELOVED COUNTRYMEN:

“As I observe my 52nd birth anniversary today, I feel I owe it to our people to renew my pledge to dedicate my entire efforts and to utilize all the resources and facilities available to bring about a better life for our people.

“As it is now known, the two objectives of our administration are accelerated economic growth and moral regeneration. After our vigorous drive against graft and corruption, I trust that we have set a new moral tone that would prevent the occurrence of venalities altogether. In this campaign we have been guided by no other goal but to establish fair and equal opportunity for all the inhabitants of the country in order that they may have a just share in the benefits derived from the national economy.

“On the economic front, we have set into motion a socio-economic-development program that outlines the targets and the means necessary for a total national effort to improve the economic welfare of the nation to distribute the burdens and benefits of economic development more equitably, and to lay the solid foundations of an economic superstructure that would provide for a stable, continuing, and unrelenting growth of the economy’s productive capacity.

“But all this can come to naught without the support and cooperation of all good citizens and people. The objectives we seek to achieve involve sacrifice of the highest magnitude. It is a mistake to think that it is only the Administration that should carry the burden and responsibility of promoting economic and social progress. This is the joint responsibility of all.

“On this day, therefore, instead of the traditional material gift that you give to one marking his birthday, I ask of you to work with us in the implementation of our socio-economic program, to make a little sacrifice and bear with patience the inconveniences which come from the transitory prelude to prosperity, with the hope that in due time, which we will strive to bring about as early as possible, these trials will give way to stable conditions of better livelihood for all. In fine, let us pool out collective thoughts and efforts to the mighty task of building a better future for ourselves and our posterity.”

**September 28.**—PPRESIDENT MACAPAGAL observed his 52nd birthday anniversary today in a way that has yet to find precedence in Philippine officialdom.

Instead of the ostentations that usually characterize presidential birthdays, the Chief Executive preferred the isolation that an island like Hermana Mayor, some six nautical miles off the Zambales coast, and the company of the townspeople, this time, the people of Zambales.

The manner with which he marked his birthday may, however, prove yet to be most heart warming. The broad smiles of the celebrant who untiringly shook hands with his thousands of well-wishers and the enthusiasm with which he was greeted were evident in all the towns the President passed through on his way to San Felipe town to see the damage to Maculcol bridge whose approaches were washed away by the recent floods that hit Zambales.

The President started the day by hearing mass and receiving Holy Communion at an improvised altar in the sala of the spacious nipa house of Mr. and Mrs. Benigno Toda, Jr., in their island retreat in Hermana Mayor. In attendance were the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal their children Gloria and Diosdado, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Toda and a handful of aides.

The President was wearing a cream barong Tagalog and flesh-colored pants, while the First Lady was in a light pink ordinary dress. A kiss from the First Lady was his first gift.

Following the mass the First Family had a simple breakfast of rice, sliced bread, *paksiw*, and fried eggs. Shortly after breakfast the President together with the First Lady and son Diosdado, Jr., boarded a Philippine Navy launch for *Rajah Soliman* which ferried them across the Sta. Cruz bay to the town of Sta. Cruz.

A sizeable crowd headed by Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, Governor Manuel Barretto, Congressmen Venancio Ziga of Albay and Virgilio Afable of Zambales, and some town mayors were on hand at the wharf to greet the President.

As soon as the President disembarked from the naval vessel, Pendatun presented to him a huge bronze plaque signed by 56 congressmen greeting the Chief Executive on his birthday and expressing faith and confidence, and support of his leadership.

In their resolution, the Congressmen cited the President for his decades of faithful and dedicated public service, his efforts to eradicate graft and corruption and bring abundance and prosperity to the people. The congressmen also hailed the President for having “shown that ours is a flexible democracy that can be adapted to the changing situation” and “destroyed the myth that only dictatorship can be efficient and effective.”

The motorcade from the Acoje wharf up to San Felipe was an exhausting one although the President did not show it. He had to alight from his car at every turn to acknowledge the greetings of placards-bearing men, women, and children who formed human roadblocks to have a chance to greet and shake hands with him on his birthday. Songs of “Happy Birthday” and “Mabuhay” filled the air as the presidential car inched its way for the long journey to the town.

In *Iba Te Deum* was said for the First Couple by Bishop Henry Burn at the Catholic church. Then the President proceeded to the nearby provincial capitol where he was presented by Gov. Barretto with a swagger stick as a gift from the people of Zambales.

It was past 2 o’clock in the afternoon when the President reached the residence of Gov. Barretto in barrio Maloma of San Felipe where he had lunch. Then the President motored to see the washed-out approaches of Maculcol bridge in the town. In spite of a downpour, a large crowd gathered over the bridge who to the accompaniment of a band, sang “Happy Birthday.”

The Chief Executive approved a request of Gov. Barretto for the release of P185,000 for reconstruction of the bridge.

The President and the First Lady motored back to Iba, where they boarded an Army plane back to Hermana Mayor.

Deeply affected by the warmth and enthusiasm with which he was received, the President issued a statement thanking the people of Zambales who, he said, “came out en masse to make my first presidential birthday, the most memorable in my life.”

He said he spent his first birthday as President with the people “to emphasize my conviction that if democracy is to meet successfully the challenge of a new ideology, it must adapt itself to the times.” because “the leaders must constantly be with the people as an assurance that their efforts are truly for their welfare.”

**September 29.**—IT WAS better late than never for the members of the Cabinet and their ladies who chartered a Philippine Air Lines plane this day for far-flung Hermana Mayor to greet President Macapagal on his 52nd birthday which actually fell yesterday.



The island hideout buzzed with merry-making as the Cabinet members and their ladies chanted and danced to the tune of a navy combo and a tape-recorder.

It was the first time Hermana Mayor residents could recall that they had seen dancing and singing and had almost all the high official of the executive department in that small island.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58(40), ccclxxix-ccclxxxv.

## **President's Week in Review: October 14-20, 1962**

### **Official Week in Review**

**October 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent a quiet day in Malacañang today as he rested from a hectic trip to Zamboanga City and Surigao early during the week-end.

He did not receive callers but, after his breakfast, he went over state papers. The President had lunch in Malacañang with the members of his family.

In the evening he heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. The President was with the First Lady and the three Macapagal children, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.

Malacañang announced this evening that the President had disapproved for security reasons the issuance of visas to members of the Russian and the Yugoslav basketball teams scheduled to participate in the fourth world basketball championship in Manila, December 1 to 15.

The announcement was made following a conference between President Macapagal and Executive Secretary Salvador Mariño.

Malacañang also released the letter to the Department of Foreign Affairs turning down a request of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation for reconsideration of an earlier government decision not to allow entry of the two teams in the Philippines.

The P.A.A.F. then requested visas for Russian and Yugoslav athletes last year, but the Department of Foreign Affairs turned the request down because it has no doubt that sports, as well as any other activity, may well be used as pretext for other ends."

The P.A.A.F. then requested reconsideration of the decision of the department and the department raised it to Malacañang.

The Malacañang decision was in consonance with the sentiments of members of the Cabinet who took up the P.A.A.F. request at their meeting last Wednesday.

**October 15.**—THIS morning the President met with Manila Mayor Antonio Villegas and Undersecretary of Public Works Rafael Contreras on the proposed P1.5 million vehicular-pedestrian underpass at Quezon Boulevard and Recto Avenue.

Although the Chief Executive expressed agreement on the project, he however asked the City Executive and the Public Works Undersecretary to prepare an overall flood control program for the city which will include the proposed underpass.

Also present at the discussion of the project were City Engineer Ladislao Tolentino, Magdaleno Gomez and Antonio Nasol of the city engineer's office.

President Macapagal also received this morning Spanish Ambassador Jaime Alba and Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, who informed him of the signing of a loan agreement between Spain and the Philippines by which the former granted a loan of \$10 million for the economic stabilization of the country.

With them in calling on the Chief Executive were Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Acting Central Bank Governor Amado Briñas, Minister Anastacio Bartolome of the Department of Foreign Affairs, and Jose Francisco of the Spanish Embassy.

The President spent the greater part of the day conferring with provincial municipal officials on matters affecting their respective regions.

Those who met the Chief Executive were Govs. Melanio T. Singson of Isabela, Dominador Asis of Camarines Norte, Pedro Dizon of Bataan, Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, and Francisco Nepomuceno; Acting Gov. Dominador Danan of Pampanga; Vice-Govs. Gloria Estegan of Negros Occidental and Levi R. Romero of Romblon; City Mayor Liberato Ll. Reyna of Dagupan; Board Members Nicanor Lopez of Catanduanes and Getulio Guevara of Aklan; City Councilors Jose V. Ramos of Bacolod and Jose Sembrano of Manila; and Municipal Mayors Dominador Songco of Floridablanca, Emiliano Caruncho of Pasig, and Pedro Nazareno of San Pascual, Masbate.

With Mayor Caruncho in seeing the President were councilors Armando Damian, Manuel Dutera, and Eliseo Espiritu.

President Macapagal today named 36 new full colonels in the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The promotion of full colonels was recommended by the AFP advisory board and concurred in by Defense Secretary Marciano Peralta, Jr., and Lt. Gen. Alfredo Santos, AFP chief of staff.

The AFP advisory board chairmanned by Maj. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina is composed of Brig. Gen. Dominador Garcia, Brig. Gen. Nicanor Garcia, Brig. Gen. Jonas Victoria, Capt. Juan B. Magluyan, and Capt. Q.P. Evangelista.

The over-riding consideration in the selection as recommended by the AFP advisory board was "seniority, merit, and justice." The board also considered the existing vacancies by branch of service under Republic Act 291 as of September 15, 1962.

Promoted full colonels were 19 from the regular ground force, one in the reserve ground force, five from the Philippine Air Force (regular), and one OAF reserve. Three were promoted captains (equivalent of full colonel in the Army) in the PN regular force, one in the reserve force, one in the Judge Advocate general service, two in the medical corps, and three in dental service.

**October 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred today with economic leaders of the country on Philippine economic conditions. The exchange of views on the country's economic status was made at a breakfast conference in Malacañang.

Present at the conference were Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., Commerce Secretary Rufino Hechanova, Director Sixto Roxa, Jr., of the Program Implementation Agency, Central Bank Acting Governor Amado Briñas, PNB Chairman Silvestre Punsalan, PNB President Bienvenido Dizon, Dean Armando Fabella, and World Bank Executive Dragoslav Avramovic.

The Chief Executive was also assured by Sugar Quota Administrator Conrado Manalansan of the favorable position of Philippine sugar in the United States market. Manalansan was accompanied by Francisco Gamboa, a sugar exporter who arrived recently from the United States to study sugar conditions there.

GSIS General Manager Ramon Diaz reported to the President on his one-month tour of Germany and Spain where he observed social security systems.

He presented a law book entitled "*Manuel de Derecho Processal Civil*" as a gift from its author, Dean Leonardo Prieto Castro of the University of Madrid. Castro is one of the favorite authors of President Macapagal.

Ex-Senator Geronima Pecson also called on the President to discuss Philippine participation in the coming UNESCO general conference.

Before the President left for Baguio in the afternoon, he was interviewed by Japanese correspondent Osamu Watanabe of *Asahi Shimbun*.

President Macapagal ordered yesterday an all-out drive in crime “in all its forms,” including those committed by teenage hoodlums. The order was made through Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño to all police chiefs and military commanders.

At the same time, the President called on all politicians and other persons of influence not to intervene with the law enforcement agencies in behalf of juvenile delinquents when they get into trouble with the law.

The Chief Executive appealed to school and church officials and civic organization leaders to take active part in the drive, while the people, especially in urban areas, should form neighborhood associations that will help guard against criminal acts, especially by young.

The President issued his order for a government campaign against criminals in the face of reports of a crime wave that recently included the fancy mauling of a young man by a group of teenagers in barrio Kangkong, Quezon City.

President Macapagal arrived in Baguio City at 6:30 this evening to address Emergency Employment Administration trainees at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President will stay in the summer capital until Thursday morning when he will motor down to Dagupan City to inaugurate the Government Service Institute Systems there.

The President and his party left Malacañang at 1:30 this afternoon. They were met by Baguio Vice-Mayor Noberto de Guzman and city councilors at the zigzag road boundary.

President and Mrs. Macapagal are returning to Malacañang Thursday evening.

**October 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was accorded rousing welcome by 629 trainees of the Emergency Employment Administrations as he entered the Benitez Hall of the Teachers’ Camp to address them on their graduation today.

After he was introduced by Eleuterio Adevos, EEA administrator, the President pledged a regime of “justice placing all facilities of the state to uphold the people’s right and to prevent or rectify any injustice against them.”

He said the trainees formed the ramparts which will help solve the acute unemployment problem.

Later in the afternoon the President met newsmen at the Guest House and announced he was closing the door to Nacionalista senators joining the Liberal Party.

He also motored to the Philippine Military Academy in Loakan, where he was honored with a parade in review. In accordance with tradition, the AFP commander-in-chief condoned the “sins” of PMA cadets as of today, which meant the removal of all their demerits.

President Macapagal today slammed the door to Nacionalista senators wanting to join the Liberal Party and pinned hopes to capture the Senate presidency through the election of seven or eight LPs in the coming senatorial midterm polls.

He announced his decision after attacking Sen. Alejandro Almendras’s alleged attempt to dramatize the reported administration efforts to win him into the LP to give the necessary vote to gain control of the upper chamber.

The President pointed out he was unaware of the move to woo Sen. Gil J. Puyat into LP and stressed the decision not to win NP senators into the administration party.

He met newsmen at the Guest Home shortly after addressing 629 trainees of the Emergency Employment Administration in the Benitez Hall of the Teachers' Camp in Baguio City.

In the press interview, President Macapagal:

1. Said there is nothing definite in reports he would reassign Customs Commissioner Cesar Climaco and replace him with Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez;
2. Refused to comment on reports Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez will endorse favorably an appeal for the reconsideration of his decision banning the Yugoslavian basketball team from entering Manila for the coming world basketball championship series;
3. Denied having issued new orders against crime, saying he has always supported the efforts to check criminality not only in Manila but also in all parts of the country.

The President indicated Almendras may face charges, as he said the PAGCOM has been conducting an investigation of many officials for malfeasance which he said the government could not ignore.

However, he denied having official knowledge of charges being readied against Almedras. He denied reports the Administration will resort to prosecution.

The President accused Almendras of dramatizing himself "to offset his waning popularity in Davao."

He recalled Almendras had wanted to see him but that he sent former Rep. Hermenegildo Atienza instead to find out from the senator what he wanted.

In closing the door to NP senators, the President reiterated he has been laying the groundwork for a victory of seven or eight senatorial candidates of the LP to give the majority party sufficient votes to capture the Senate leadership.

"It would normalize the situation because the President should have control of both houses of Congress," he said.

He added: "There is nothing definite on reports Climaco will head the PACD (Presidential Assistance on Community Development) and Romualdez to take over the customs bureau."

He said Acting Secretary of Finance Rodrigo Perez had asked his relief as head of the PACD, as he has his hands full in his Cabinet post. He said he has agreed to relieve Perez as PACD head and asked him and Executive Secretary Salvador Mariño to find men to fill the job.

The President is scheduled to motor to Dagupan City tomorrow to inaugurate the new GSIS branch building there. From Dagupan, he will motor to Manila, expecting to arrive in Malacañang in the evening.

**October 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was guest speaker today at the inauguration of the P800,000 GSIS Northern Luzon regional office in Dagupan City. In his speech the Chief Executive underscored the role of the people, in general, and the Government Service Insurance System, in particular, in the socio-economic development of the country.

The President said that under the free enterprise economy which his administration has instituted, it now depends in the people to develop the country's economy with the government giving all possible guidance and assistance in the pursuit of their industrial and business undertakings.

He hailed GSIS in its dual role serving the best interests of its members and in providing capital for investment. While the GSIS can perform its assigned social security task for its members, he said, it also has the indispensable service of utilizing the savings of the people for the economic development of the country, thus giving the people a direct hand in the task of building a vigorous nation.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady and their children, Gloria and Diosdado, Jr., motored down to Dagupan City at about 9 o'clock this morning from Baguio, where he addressed yesterday the graduation of 629 supervisor-trainees of the Emergency Employment Administration.

They were met at the highway boundary of Baguio and Rosario in La Union by a big crowd headed by Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella and GSIS General Manager Ramon Diaz.

The President and First Lady then rode at the head of a long motorcade to Dagupan City, passing through the towns of Binalonan, Sison, Pozorrubio, Urdaneta, Sta. Barbara, and Calasiao.

In all these towns the First Couple had to alight from their car to return the greeting of the townspeople who lined the routes to the city. Heading the welcomers were Mayors Ignacio F. Aquino of Sison, Paulino F. de Vera of Pozorrubio, Fernando C. Managan of Urdaneta, Felipe A. Oda of Binalonan, Primitivo S. Perez of San Manuel, and Felipe P. de Veyra of Calasiao.

Upon reaching the highway boundary of Calasiao and Dagupan City, they were again met by an enthusiastic crowd led by Dagupan City Mayor Liberato Ll. Reyna and Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr.

The First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon inaugurating the GSIS regional office. She was assisted by Mesdames Celestina Reyna, Sergia Estrella, Corazon C. Fernandez, and R. Diaz.

During the program Mayor Reyna and Gov. Estrella delivered welcome addresses on behalf of the city and the province, respectively. Manager Diaz introduced the President.

Shortly after lunch at the third floor of the newly inaugurated GSIS regional office, the President left for Manila, arriving at Malacañang at five this afternoon.

President Macapagal will consult his Cabinet today on the petition to lift the visa ban on communist players scheduled to take part in the World Basketball Championship here in December.

The President told newsmen this day at brief interview in Dagupan City that he will render his decision on the appeal immediately after the consultative meeting.

Slated to be consulted by the President are acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and other Cabinet members who have previously recommended banning the entry here of Russian and Yugoslavian athletes.

The reconsideration petition was presented to the President by sports leaders and organizations led by the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation. It was handed to the President in Dagupan City by Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, PAAF vice-president and president of the Basketball Association of the Philippines.

Padilla and other sport leaders motored to Baguio City this morning but failed to meet the President at the Guest House.

"I will decide on the petition tomorrow," the President told newsmen.

Sen. Padilla told newsmen that he apprised the President of the unhappy repercussions of his decision rejecting a PAAF request for the issuance of visas to Russians and Yugoslavian basketball players coming to the Philippines next December.

Padilla told newsmen that the International Amateur Basketball Federation (FIBA) was planning to withdraw recognition to the coming World Basketball Championship series if Yugoslavian players were not admitted entry into the Philippines.

He also said that other member countries of the FIBA have proposed to expel the Philippines from the world championship games.

Padilla pointed out the consequences of the Malacañang decision as he raised new hopes that Malacañang may reconsider its decision.

The Senator also assuaged the President's fears that the entry here of the players from communist countries would be a threat to national security.

**October 19.**—THE President held separate conference this morning with officials of two government corporations on the operation of their respective offices.

Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., NAWASA Board Chairman, and NAWASA General Manager Jesus Perlas met with the President on the modernization of the water supply system in Manila and the suburbs. With them were NAWASA Board Members Socorro de Castro, Egidio Tanjuaco, and Olegario Castro.

Manila Railroad Company General Manager Paulino T. Cases, together with acting Board Chairman Tomas Clemente and MRR Chief Engineer Juan T. de Castro, conferred with the Chief Executive on the problems of the government transportation company.

The President then held a brief interview with David Chiff, Reuter's Southeast Asia manager.

Other callers this morning included Manila Councilor Juan Baluyot and Chairman Jose Suntay of the Board of Liquidators.

President Macapagal today appointed Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., member of the National Committee on State Visits.

The appointment of the Palace spokesman to the committee was contained in an administrative order issued by the Chief Executive this morning amending a previous order issued last September 17 creating the committee.

Secretary Paruñgao is also chairman of the subcommittee on press, radio, TV, and publicity in connection with the four-day state visit here of Mexican President Adolfo Lopez Mateos which starts tomorrow.

President Macapagal expressed confidence today that the "beneficial relationship" between the Philippines and Denmark would "evolve into more intense cultural and commercial exchanges" between the two countries.

The President made the statement in his response to the remarks of the newly accredited ambassador of Denmark to the Philippines during the latter's presentation of credentials at Malacañang this afternoon.

Present during the ceremony were Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag, Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, Public Works Undersecretary Rafael Contreras, Education Secretary Alejandro Roces, General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Health Secretary Francisco Duque, and Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr.

Earlier the President received a delegation of about 500 tenants from the Canlubang sugar estate who called on him at Malacañang to voice their grievances against the management of the hacienda and to seek government assistance in their present plight. In his talk with the tenants the Chief Executive reiterated his pledge to utilize all government facilities to defend their rights in the hacienda.

This evening the Chief Executive motored to the Malate church to attend the holy mass in commemoration of the first death anniversary of the late President Sergio Osmeña.

**October 20.**—THE NATION accorded President and Mrs. Adolfo Lopez Mateos of Mexico with a red carpet welcome upon their arrival at the Manila International Airport this afternoon.

President and Mrs. Macapagal headed government officials and thousands of cheering and flag-waving men, women, and children who converged at the airport since early this afternoon and lined the route of the motorcade to Malacañang in welcoming the Mexican President and his party.

In his welcome remarks President Macapagal said the Filipino people receive the Mexican leader and his lady not only in their homes but also in their hearts. He said that more than anything else Mexico and the Philippines constituted eloquent exponents in the effort of creating abundance for their people. The President said that the historical past of both nations have common ideals for happiness and freedom for their people.

In his response President Mateos said that their coming here is an opportunity for renewing the ties that had bound the two countries for more than 100 years. He said that Mexico has the privilege of being the only country in America that could maintain commerce with the distant Orient. He recalled the galleon trade between the two countries during the Spanish regime when porcelain and silk were bought from the Orient.

The Mexican leader said that Filipinos and the Mexicans have common historical past and that the Filipino hero, Jose Rizal, could have headed the independence movement in Mexico as he had in the Philippines.

The chartered Pan American jetliner which flew the Mexican President and his party for a three-day state visit here pulled to a stop in front of the terminal at about 4 p.m. Earlier, a flight of 11 Philippine Air Force jet fighters escorted the sleek giant airliner as it hovered into view.

A round of applause greeted the Mexican leader and his lady as soon as they showed up at the door of the plane. With them were their only child, 21-year old Avecita, and a host of newsmen, radio-TV cameramen, commentators, and press photographers.

The Mexican President was accorded military honors, including a 21-gun salute, by a composite battalion of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. After the military honors President Macapagal introduced President and Mrs. Mateos to members of the diplomatic corps and members of his Cabinet.

Shortly after the welcome ceremonies, Mayor Pablo Cuneta presented to President Mateos the symbolic key to Pasay City.

A long motorcade from the airport to Malacañang Palace followed the airport ceremonies with the two Presidents riding a yellow open car followed by the car of two First Ladies, Mesdames Evangelina M. Macapagal and Eva Mateos, and that of their children.

Thousands of flag-waving people from all walks of life lined the route of the motorcade from Quirino Avenue in Parañaque, Rizal, through Dewey Boulevard, San Luis, Taft Avenue, Ayala Boulevard, General Solano, and Jose P. Laurel in Manila.

As the presidential car bearing Presidents Mateos and Macapagal swung into view at the Manila City Hall, the large crowd burst into shouts of *Mabuhay* and *Viva*.



Mayor Antonio Villegas welcomed the two Presidents who alighted from the presidential car, followed by Mrs. Mateos, Mrs. Macapagal, Avecita Mateos, and Gloria Macapagal.

Mayor Villegas who spoke in Pilipino, pointed out the historical significance of the Mexican President's visit to the nation which he said had close ties with Mexico since time of the galleon trade. As he presented the key to the city, Villegas assured the Mexican Chief Executive that the hearts and homes of the people of Manila are open to them.

From the City Hall, the motorcade proceeded to Malacañang. It was escorted by a cavalry of the Philippine Army as soon as it entered General Solano up to the Palace gate where a big crowd from the neighboring vicinities had gathered since early this afternoon to cheer the visitors.

Up in the Palace, President and Mrs. Mateos signed the guest book. They were then ushered in by President and Mrs. Macapagal to the music room where they exchanged pleasantries. The First Couple also introduced to President and Mrs. Mateos their children, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr., while President Mateos introduced to President and Mrs. Macapagal the members of his party.

A state dinner was tendered by President and Mrs. Macapagal in honor of the Mexican magistrate and his lady in the evening, after which President Mateos was conferred the Raja of the Order of Sikatuna by President Macapagal.

*Source:* **Supreme Court Library**

Macapagal, D. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58 (43), cdvii-cdxiii.

## **Official Week in Review: October 21 – October 27, 1962**

**October 21.**—THE President did not have any caller this morning. He was reported to have rested early in the morning after a hectic schedule last night in entertaining the Lopez Mateos family in the Palace.

President Macapagal was reported to have gone over state papers later this morning.

This afternoon the President and Mrs. Macapagal heard a Sunday mass at the Malacañang chapel.

President and Mrs. Macapagal this evening entertained Mexican President and Mrs. Adolfo Lopez Mateos at the Rizal Theater, where the world-famous Bayanihan Dance Group performed native dances.

The President and Mrs. Macapagal motored to the Rizal Theater in Makati, Rizal, shortly before 9 p.m.

**October 22.**—THIS morning the President went over pending state papers. He was reported to have received unlisted callers who had something to do with the proposed shakeup of top government officials.

The President also went over the appeal of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation for a grant of visas to the Yugoslav players who are competing in Manila in the coming World Basketball Championship next December. However, the President has decided to announce his decision either today or tomorrow.

This evening President and Mrs. Macapagal were honored at a state dinner by visiting Mexican President and Mrs. Adolfo Lopez Mateos at the Manila Polo Club. The dinner was in reciprocation of a similar party given by President and Mrs. Macapagal in Malacañang last Saturday on the day of the arrival of the Lopezes.

President and Mrs. Lopez Mateos left Malacañang earlier and were followed by President and Mrs. Macapagal ten minutes later. With the Lopezes was their 21-year-old daughter, Avecita. With the Macapagals was their daughter Gloria, who played hostess to Avecita.

President Macapagal and President Lopez Mateos exchanged toasts and reaffirmed their pledge for stronger and closer relations between the Philippines and Mexico.

**October 23.**—THIS morning the President conferred with his state guest, President Lopez Mateos of Mexico, at a private breakfast in Malacañang. They worked out a joint communiqué embodying their common resolve to help ensure respect for the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

President and Mrs. Macapagal also exchanged gifts with President and Mrs. Mateos before the Mexican Chief of State left for his home country.

Before President Macapagal left Malacañang to see his state guest off, he presented the Mexican Chief of State with a coffee set of *camagong* and silver hand-made by artisans of Estrella del Norte, while the First Lady gave Mrs. Mateos a *piña* cloth.

President Macapagal had a busy day this morning as he stayed with his state guest in Malacañang and until noontime at the Manila International Airport.

At the airport President Macapagal trooped the line with President Lopez Mateos and later proceeded to a red-carpeted area beside a Pan-American Airways jet plane.

The President returned to Malacañang after seeing his state guest off.

In the afternoon the President conferred with acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez and Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño on the appeal of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation for a reconsideration of the Malacañang decision banning the entry here of the Yugoslav players who are competing in the World of Basketball Championship games next December. With them were Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr.

President Macapagal today threw his country's full support behind President Kennedy's action in ordering a naval blockade of Cuba. The President made this decision after making a full assessment of the Cuban situation.

In a statement, the President said that as a member of the free world alliance, the Philippines supports President Kennedy's action "as well as any other action which may be necessary to repeal any threat to the peace or any act of aggression by which the communist powers propose to achieve their objective of world domination.

At the same time, the President said he was instructing the Philippine delegation to the United Nations to support a resolution calling for the withdrawal of missile bases and other offensive weapons in Cuba under the supervision of UN observers.

The Chief Executive said President Kennedy had acted with courage and resolution to safeguard the security not only of the United States but of the free world as a whole.

He pointed out that the risk of war is serious, "but inaction would have aggravated the risk."

"This is also our choice," the President said, "and we make it calmly in the conviction that it is wise, right, and just."

**October 24.**—THIS morning President Macapagal cancelled his appointments with scheduled callers in order to update his speech which will be delivered at the UN Day Ceremonies.

Scheduled to see the President were Acting Speaker Salipada Pendatun and a group of congressmen who were griping against Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio L. Adevosio for allegedly ignoring their protégés for appointment in the Emergency Employment Administration.

This afternoon the President met the press for his regular weekly press conference. The conference, which was originally scheduled on Friday, was reset for Wednesday.

He took the occasion to announce the appointment of Customs Commissioner Cesar Climaco as Presidential Assistant on Community Development, and the designation of Labor Secretary Eduardo Romualdez as concurrent commissioner of customs. He signed their appointments earlier.

At his regular press conference the President denied he was calling a meeting of the National Security Council, as he tried to minimize the seriousness of the Cuban situation.

He said he was always in close contact with acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez on developments in the international scene, as reports reaching Manila claimed that both the United States and the Russians were girding for a showdown over U.S. President Kennedy's "quarantine" action on Fidel Castro's Cuba.

The President sought to allay the war jitters which have gripped Manilans and other people in the country over the developing crisis in Cuba. The President said he has adopted an attitude of "watchful waiting" on the Cuban situation.

Informed that a group of members of Congress were agitating for a meeting of the Security Council, the President remarked: "The action of the members of Congress is commendable as showing their concern over the security of the country."

President Macapagal said today that the Philippines is ready at all times to fulfill its commitments with the United Nations whether “for peace or for war.” However, he said the present tension in Cuba is “no cause for alarm.”

The Chief Executive made the assurance in a speech delivered before “delegates” to the Model United Nations General Assembly held at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum this afternoon. The model assembly was sponsored by the Manila Rotary Club and participated in by selected students from different schools and universities in Manila. It was the highlight of this year’s UN Day celebration.

The President was accompanied by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal. Acting Rotary President Herbert C. Hendry and Director Eugenio Padua, chairman of the International Service Committee of the Rotary, fetched the President and the First Lady from Malacañang.

The President was given a standing ovation after delivering his speech. Present during the affair were members of the Cabinet, diplomatic corps, civic groups, and students from various Manila schools.

The Chief Executive left Malacañang at 5:45 p.m. and arrived at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum 5 minutes later. From the coliseum, he motored back to Malacañang.

**October 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today held separate conferences with administration officials on labor and economic matters affecting the country.

First to meet with the Chief Executive on the possible immediate causes of labor strikes, especially in government corporations, were Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., OEC Administrator Manuel Cuenco, and Labor Undersecretary Bernardino Abes.

The President then conferred at luncheon with administration economic and financial advisers on the progress of the country’s economy.

Present at the conference were NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Assistant Executive Secretary Sixto Roxas, Jr., Acting Central Bank Governor Amado Briñas, PIA Assistant Armand Fabella, Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., and PNB President Bienvenido Dizon.

The President also received provincial officials who met with him on problems of their respective localities, including public works projects.

Gov. Manuel Barreto and Rep. Virgilio Afable conferred with the Chief Executive on public works projects in Zambales which may be handled by the Emergency Employment Administration, like the construction of the proposed P1.3 million Capas-Botohan road that will connect Zambales to Tarlac. They also discussed rural electrification plans for the province.

Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental likewise sought the release of public works funds for Bacolod City and appointments to local positions in her province.

Other provincial executive who met with the Chief Executive were Govs. Corazon Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte, and Antonio Mayuga of Romblon.

With Gov. Mayuga were Romblon ex-Gov. D. M. Castro and Romblon Mayor Isidro Mellorca, Vice-Mayor Pablo S. Merida, and Councilors Rodolfo Morato, Juan C. Tan, Pociano Montojo, Laureano Montojo, Pedro R. Mindo, Miguel G. Mesana, and Luis Merica, Jr.

In the group of Gov. Espino were Mayors Mario Brigola of San Pedro, Laguna, and Tranquilino Dalupang of Cauayan, Isabela.

In the afternoon the President took up local matters with 38 Congressmen headed by Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun. He also conferred separately with Sens. Gaudencio Antonino, Maria Kalaw Katigbak, Francisco Rodrigo, and Eulogio Balao.

Sen. Balao called on the Chief Executive for final instructions before departing for the forthcoming UNESCO conference in Paris.

The President later received the members of the American Goodyear basketball team who paid him a courtesy call. The American hoopsters arrived recently for a series of games in the country with the Philippine olympic team. They were accompanied by Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, Charles Blaedron, and Henry Voughn, team manager and coach, respectively, A. W. Dunn, Frederick Kitchen, Richard K. Woodling of the local Goodyear Company, and Robert Ebersole of the U.S. Embassy.

This evening the President approved the sending of a delegation to the UNESCO general conference to be held in Paris from October 29 to December 12 this year.

The delegation will be headed by Sen. Maria Kalaw Katigbak, with Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez as vice-chairman, and ex-Senator Geronima Pecson as adviser.

Members of the delegation are Rep. Salih Ututulum, Dr. Alfredo T. Morales, UP vice-president, and Dr. Canuto Manuel of the National Science Development Board.

Emilo Samaniego of the Department of Education, Waldo Perfecto of the Catholic Education Association of the Philippines, Estefania Aldaba-Lim of the Philippine Mental Health Association, Jose Ronduen of UNESCO (Phil.), and Francisco Trinidad of the Philippines Broadcasting Service will act as alternate delegates.

**October 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred today with Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently foreign affairs secretary, on the explosive Cuban situation.

The Vice-President arrived early this morning with his wife Edith aboard a Philippine Air Lines plane from the United States where he headed the Philippine delegation to the 17th session of the United Nations' general assembly.

During their talks the Vice-President told the Chief Executive of the United States' assurance of meeting its commitments with the Philippines on the face of the Cuban crisis.

Pelaez also reported on his conferences with Washington officials concerning Philippine-American relations, and on Philippine representation in the United Nations.

The President congratulated the Vice-President on the impressive showing of the Philippine delegation to the world body.

Also present during the conference were Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez.

In the afternoon the President discussed with administration officials the launching of the government's employments program early next month.

PRECEP Chairman Eleuterio Adevos, who is also acting administrator of the Emergency Employment Agency, reported that the EEA has already completed plans for the massive employment program and that thousands will be employed in public works, reclamation, cottage industries, and reforestation projects within the coming months.

Present at the conference were Chairman Adevos, Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., Assistant Executive Secretary on Economic Affairs Sixto Roxas, Jr., Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, Budget Deputy Commissioner Amable Aguiluz, Presidential Assistant on Public Works Manuel Feliciano, Economics Assistant Armand Fabella, NARRA Manager Atila Balgos, Department of Commerce Director Jovito Rivera, Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, and Col. Jose Atienza of the AFP.

Other callers this morning included Philippine Ambassador to Karachi Jose Alejandrino, SSS Administrator Rene Espina, Judge Cecilia Muñoz-Palma of the Pasig court of first instance, and Messrs. Francisco Ortigas, Jr., and Alfonso de Leon.

The President also met briefly this afternoon with Education Secretary Alejandro Roces on matters concerning the forthcoming state visit here of Japan's Prince Akihito. Roces is chairman of the committee on state visits.

Earlier this evening the President received NICA Chief Marcos Soliman, who reported on the reactions of the foreign relations and national defense committees of both Houses of Congress on the Cuban situation.

President Macapagal granted today a 30-day reprieve to two death convicts who were scheduled to die in the electric chair at 3 p.m. today at the national penitentiary in Muntinlupa, Rizal.

The President granted the reprieve following receipt of a recommendation for executive clemency submitted by the Board of Pardon and Parole. He said he needed time to study the recommendation.

The death convicts are Pascualito Adora y Cebuche, 25, and Primitivo Pinca y Lipata, both of Kalumotan, Laoang, Samar. They were convicted of robbery with multiple homicide and serious physical injuries by the Samar court of first instance after they had killed three people in a robbery in Laoang town in 1958.

The two were committed to the state penitentiary on January 20, 1960. Their three co-accused were sentenced to life imprisonment and are now serving their terms in the penitentiary.

The President tonight ordered the immediate opening of 11 public land clearance projects by the NARRA simultaneous with the gigantic employment program of the Emergency Employment Administration. The Chief Executive issued the instructions to NARRA General Manager Atila Balgos after a conference in Malacañang.

The probable sites for the joint NARRA-EEA land clearance projects are Surigao, Mindoro, Camarines Sur, Samar, Capiz, Negros, Palawan, Zamboanga del Sur, Lanao del Norte, Cotabato, and Davao.

**October 27.**—THE President stayed today in Malacañang going over pending state papers which had piled up during the last few days.

He did not receive any scheduled caller, but he conferred with Malacañang officials, including Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., who briefed him on new developments.

The President also received close friends who expressed their support to his decision banning the entry of Yugoslavian basketball players to the World Basketball Championship scheduled to be held in Manila this coming December.

Among those who saw the President was Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga. Nepomuceno saw the President on some official matters.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



## **President's Week in Review: October 28 - November 3, 1962**

### **Official Week in Review**

**October 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal expressed today his gratification over the enthusiastic response shown by enterprising young men and women in the rural areas in the establishment of cottage industries as part of the Administration's socio-economic program.

Accompanied by Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal, the President visited this morning a small handicraft factory set up under a residential house in a relatively unknown barrio in Bauan, Batangas, which promises to become a production center specializing in the large-scale manufacture of shoes, garments, slippers, bags, and other art crafts.

The President told residents of the barrio that thousands of cottage industries projects will be launched on November 2 under the sponsorship of the Emergency Employment Administration. He said that the Administration's massive employment program would also be launched on the same day.

The President informed the people about the creation of the National Cottage Industry Development Authority, which will assist in the financing of small industries, the standardization of products, and in providing a good marketing system that will enable manufacturers to export in a large scale.

The Chief Executive said thousands of cottage industries would be established all over the country in line with the Administration's policy of generating socio-economic development in the country's under-developed areas. He said that the cottage industries program offers vast employment opportunities, and is expected to raise the income of people in remote localities and improve their standards of living.

The President and the First Lady left Malacañang at 9:05 a.m. They were met at the Laguna-Batangas boundary by a large delegation led by Batangas provincial and municipal officials, including Gov. Feliciano Leviste and Board Member Loria Medina.

From the boundary town of Sto. Tomas, Batangas, the presidential motorcade had to stop in practically all towns and barrios enroute to Bauan, in response to the clamor of local folk for the President and the First Lady to alight from their car, to shake hands with them or say a few words to them.

The welcome demonstrations in many municipalities were complete with arches, streamers, and brass bands.

Arriving about 11:30 a.m. at Inicbulan, a remote coastal barrio of Bauan, Batangas, which was accessible only through five kilometers of winding dusty road from the poblacion, the President and the First Lady visited the small factory set up in one of the residential houses in the locality some 150 kilometers from Manila.

Shown around the establishment by Pedro Castillo, vice-president of the Believers Home Industries, Inc., the First Couple spent some time watching a group of 30 men and women at work in various stages in the manufacture of ladies shoes.

Simeon F. Lepasana, president of the cooperative enterprise organized by 51 small farmers, informed the President that the factory which had been recently started with a paid-up capital of P5,000 produces some 2,000 pairs of shoes a month.

The Chief Executive said that the purpose of his trip was to obtain first hand information on problems of cottage industries. He instructed NACIDA Administrator Jovito Rivera, whom he took along in the trip, to take note of these problems and formulate recommendations on how the government could best assist the infant industries.

After partaking of a light lunch with the barrio people at the factory premises, the President motored back to Manila, arriving at Malacañang shortly before 3 p.m.



**October 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, who reported on the results of his trips abroad during which he attended the annual meeting of the governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in Washington.

Castillo also reported to the President on the new image of the Philippines abroad, especially in financial circles, as a result of the decontrol program of the government and the Administration's fight against graft and corruption.

Castillo arrived last Friday evening after making side-trips to Spain where he signed the technical agreement on the \$10 million stand-by credit offered by Spain to the Philippines, and to Malaya where he visited the Central Bank of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur.

During his conference with Castillo the President created a three-man committee to determine the basic industries and manufacturing projects which will be given top priority government assistance in credit facilities.

Named to the committee were Castillo, Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, and Assistant Executive Secretary for Economic Affairs and Director of the Program Implementary Agency Sixto Roxas, III.

The President then conferred with officials of the Development Bank of the Philippines on matters concerning the government lending institution.

Those who met with the Chief Executive were DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo and Amado Castro, Enrique Ledesma, Lorenzo Hernandez, Eugenio Eusebio, and Jovino Lorenzo, members of the DBP board of governors.

The Chief Executive also received Minister Abelardo Subido, chief of the Philippines Reparations Mission in Tokyo, who called on him for final instructions before leaving this afternoon for his post to wind up his work in Japan preparatory to assuming a new position as Commissioner of Civil Service. Subido expects to be back by the middle of next month.

Later in the morning the President held a series of conferences with provincial and city officials on matters concerning their respective regions, including public works projects.

Those who met with the Chief Executive were Govs. Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte, Corazon Espino of Isabela, Filomeno Villanueva of Capiz, Dominador Danan of Pampanga, Jose E. Evangelista of Ilocos Norte, Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Sur, Arsenio Villarosa of Mindoro, and Felipe Garduque of Cagayan; City Mayors Hilarion Romero of Ozamis, Liberato Reyna of Dagupan, and Carmelo Porras of Davao; Acting Pasay City Mayor Ansberto Paredes; Manila City Councilors Jose Sembrano, Leonardo Fugoso, and Martin Isidro; and Quezon City Councilor Faustino Turla.

Other callers this morning included PHHC Chairman and Acting Labor Undersecretary Esmeraldo Eco, NARRA Chairman-General Manager Atila Balgos, Carlos Sto. Domingo, and Reps. Reynaldo Honrado and Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur.

With Rep. Pimentel in seeing the President were Mayors Segundo Cueyno of Guinatuan, Hernando Leyno of Llanga, and Regino Gimenez of San Miguel, all of Surigao del Sur;

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady motored to the Trade and Commerce building on Juan Luna to inaugurate the new 10,000-watt teletype transmitter of the United Press International.

**October 30.**—THIS morning the President went over pending state papers.

President Macapagal also congratulated today four Filipino poets who won awards in poetry in the United States.

The awardees are Oscar de Zuñiga, Manuel A. Viray, Emmanuel Torres, and Virginia Moreno. They won the Beloit Award in Poetry, one of the highest awards in poetry in the United States.

The President directed Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag this day to look into, the questioned P8 million road signs deal in the Department of Public Works.

The Chief Executive issued the order after a conference with Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, chairman of the Senate public works committee, who urged the President to order an immediate investigation of the transaction.

Sen. Antonino pointed out in a letter to the President last October 26 that the contract is a perfected one and that the government has to honor it. However, he expressed doubt on certain aspects of the deal.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal directed all government relief agencies to extend aid to the people of Itbayat and Sabtang in Batanes who are reportedly facing starvation as a result of recent typhoons.

The plight of the inhabitants of the two Batanes towns was brought to the attention of the President by Batanes Vice-Gov. Rufino C. Conde, who called on him yesterday morning. Conde informed the President that the successive typhoons which hit the province the past months had wrought havoc to the province's agricultural crops.

President Macapagal lauded today the officials and employees of the Rice and Corn Administration headed by Administrator Jose Y. Feliciano for having "splendidly handled" the rice and corn program of the Administration.

The Chief Executive motored to the RCA offices on Isaac Peral this afternoon to express his appreciation to the RCA people for their "magnificent performance" in the stabilization of the price of rice and the prevention of the recurrence of a rice crisis during the past lean months.

The President expressed the wish that personnel of other government offices will also give the necessary dedication as the RCA employees have shown.

In lauding the RCA personnel, the President said that they have accomplished the delicate mission of providing a better life for the people. He observed that during the height of the rice crisis in 1961, rice was selling at P2.50 to P3 a ganta notwithstanding the fact that the country was importing a great quantity of the staple crop. He said that enough supply at comparatively low prices has now been assured without the necessity of importation.

In brief remarks before the RCA personnel, the President announced that he will present an award to Administrator Feliciano this coming December for "a job well done."

During his surprise visit the President was informed by Feliciano that the RCA has been purchasing from 20,000 to 25,000 cavans of palay a day. With the advent of the harvest season, Feliciano said, the RCA expects to double its purchases or even reach the 100,000 mark per day.

Feliciano also said that in Cotabato alone, the RCA was able to purchase 420,000 cavans of palay at P11.50 a cavan. The RCA Administrator also informed the President that the government agency is maintaining 210 rolling stores throughout the country, 67 of which are in Manila.

Returning to Malacañang late in the afternoon, the President administered the oath of office to former Customs Commissioner Cesar Climaco as PACD chief.

Present at the induction ceremony were Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., and the inductee's sons Cesar Jr., Augusto, and Julio.

The Chief Executive also received Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and Frisco San Juan.

**October 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal held today a round of conferences with members of Congress on problems affecting their respective districts.

Led by Acting Speaker Salipada K. Pendatun, those who conferred with the Chief Executive were Reps. Justo Albert of Manila, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao del Norte, Felipe Abeleda of Mindoro Occidental, Eladio Balite and Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Emilio Gortez of Pampanga, Manuel T. Cases of La Union, Virgilio Afable of Zambales, Benjamin T. Ligo of Cagayan, Jorge Abad of Batanes, Laurentino Badilles of Lanao del Norte, Ramon Durano of Cebu, Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte, Vicente B. de Lara of Misamis Oriental, Salih Ututalum of Sulu, Angel Fernandez of Pangasinan, Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo, Felicisimo Ocampo of Nueva Ecija, Jovito Salonga and Rufino Antonio of Rizal, and Eladio Caliwara of Quezon.

Earlier this morning the President received former United States Defense Secretary Neil H. McElroy, who paid him a courtesy call.

McElroy arrived last Monday evening with his wife to look into the operations of the Procter and Gamble (Phil.), Manufacturing Corporation of which he is chairman of the board of directors. He was accompanied in his call on the Chief Executive by Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova. With them were C. M. Fulgraf, D. F. Howe, and W. G. Petty, local officials of the corporation.

In the afternoon the President held his regular weekly press conference.

He later received some members of the Philippine Senate.

“Now,” the President declared during his weekly press conference, “I can tell you. We have organized and prepared to cope with any emergency.”

The President said that although he does not consider the Cuban crisis alarming, he has taken measures to stockpile prime commodities to insure the people of ample food supply in case of emergency.

In the same formal interview, President Macapagal also announced that his administration has P141 million available to support its five-year socio-economic development program from another \$275 million expected from the United States banks in the form of loans and aid.

The President made this disclosure in denying a report, which he branded “incredible,” quoting Director Sixto L. Roxas, Jr., of the Program Implementation Agency as saying that vigorous implementation of the development program will be stymied on account of lack of funds.

The President also said he was awaiting from Secretary of Justice Juan R. Liwag a complete report on the Philippine National Bank scandal. Previous reports said the Liwag paper might implicate two high officials of the PNB in the multi-million-peso letter-of-credit anomaly.

President Macapagal again blamed the past administration for what he called the “present predicament” of the Philippines in having diplomatic relations with Cuba, a communist state.

“We cannot sever diplomatic relations with Fidel Castro’s government,” he told his weekly press conference today. “It would mean war.”

The President charged the past administration with over-eagerness in recognizing Castro’s government. He recalled the Philippines recognized the Cuban government even ahead of the United States. He reiterated that he has ordered the foreign office to re-examine the Philippine-Cuban relations.

However, he was heartened by the fact that although the Philippines has legally recognized communist Cuba, no Filipinos go to Cuba and vice-versa. He also observed that for more than a year now, the Cuban government has not sent a charge d'affaires to its legation in Manila.

The President said the present developments in the Cuban crisis have confirmed his assessment last week that there was "no cause for alarm," but that he has taken the necessary precautions of stockpiling prime commodities to insure adequate food supply.

In order to make use of American aid, the President said, he has already ordered Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., to systematize the use of these funds to boost his socio-economic program.

The President said that before the end of the year, he expects the establishment of a P200 million private development bank.

Asked to comment on reports of an impending increase in the price of sugar, the President said the information was purely speculative.

**November 1.**—THE President led the nation today in the observance of All Saints Day.

Accompanied by the First Lady, who is observing her birthday anniversary today, and their daughter Gloria, the President motored to his hometown, Lubao, Pampanga, to visit the tombs of his father, the late Urbano Macapagal, elder brother Israel, uncle Rufino Macapagal, and grandmother Escolastica Romero.

Before proceeding to Lubao, the First Couple visited Pinaglabanan Church in San Juan, Rizal, where the First Lady laid a wreath at the tomb of her father, the late Juan G. Macaraeg.

Upon arrival in Lubao, the First Couple proceeded directly to the Roman Catholic cemetery in barrio San Nicolas, where the remains of the President's father and his other relatives were buried. The First Lady, assisted by the President and Gloria, laid flowers on the tombs and said brief prayers.

From the cemetery, the First Couple motored to the town proper and had a light snack at the residence of Mrs. Leonor Tiongco before proceeding to the residence of Judge Alejandro Barin, Jr., for lunch.

Those who joined the President in his trip to Lubao were BIR Commissioner Jose B. Lingad, Bureau of Agriculture Extension Director Eloy Baluyut, Reparations Commissioner Benedicto Padilla, and acting Gov. Dominador Danan of Pampanga.

Earlier in the morning the First Couple and their children heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. The President and the First Lady received Holy Communion.

The Presidential party left Lubao before 1 p.m. and arrived in Malacañang at about 2:20 p.m.

**November 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today members of the Spanish trade mission, who exchanged views with him on economic matters affecting the Philippines and Spain.

Headed by Marquis de Suanzes, President of the Spanish National Institute of Industries, the trade mission expressed hopes of increasing trade between Spain and the Philippines as well as of increasing investments in the country by Spanish businessmen and industrialists.

The members of the five-man mission are Ignacio del Riego, Muñoz OM, Luis Azcarraga, and Manuel Golamy.

During their call Marquis de Suanzes presented to the Chief Executive with a duplicate of the sword of King Philip II during whose reign Spain colonized the Philippines. He also gave the President a modern rapid-firing Spanish rifle.

Spanish Ambassador Jaime de Alba accompanied the members of the mission in their call on the Chief Executive.

Towards noontime the President conferred with Philippine Ambassador to Japan Mauro Mendez on the forthcoming state visit here of Japan's Crown Prince Akihito.

In the afternoon the President met with administration economic and finance advisers on the launching of various projects under the Emergency Employment Administration, which will provide jobs to thousands of unemployed.

Present at the conference were EEA Acting Administrator Eleuterio Adevosio, Assistant Executive Secretary for Economic Affairs Sixto Roxas, III, Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., Acting Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., Presidential Assistant on Public Works Manuel Feliciano, NACIDA Administrator Jovito Rivera, BAE Director Eloy Baluyut, NARRA Chairman-General Manager Atila Balgos, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, Public Works Undersecretary Rafael Contreras, Forestry Director Jorge Tan, Budget Deputy Commissioner Amable Aguiluz, Economic Assistant Armand Fabella, Col. Paulino Torio, AFP chief engineer, and Ex-Gov. Serapio Datoc.

This evening President Macapagal conferred with Justice Secretary Juan E. Liwag, who presented report on his investigation of the fraudulent release of letters of credit by the Philippine National Bank.

**November 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal derided his political opponents today whom he said are misrepresenting him as a President wanting to have Congress under his control.

He spoke before a large crowd at Iba, Zambales, public plaza where he inducted some 3,000 former Nacionalistas headed by Gov. Manuel Barretto into the Liberal Party.

The President said that contrary to opposition claims, what he desires is to have a kind of democracy that will work for the welfare of the people and not serve only a privileged few.

The Chief Executive said that Philippine democracy is still in the process of development. For this reason, he said, the election of the late President Ramon Magsaysay is considered historical because it was the beginning of the awakening of the Filipinos to true democracy.

He also said that it ushered in a new era because before that time democracy in the country had not reached the depths of the masses.

The President said that the new Liberal Party is engaged in a crusade to make democracy an instrument for the well-being of a greater number of people, and justified the affiliation by opposition leaders to the Liberal Party "because it is only logical for them to unite for the good of the people."

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, arrived in Iba, Zambales, by car this morning from Lubao, Pampanga, where they spent the night at the residence of BIR Commissioner Jose B. Lingad.

They were met at the highway boundary of Bataan and Zambales by a sizeable crowd led by Gov. Barretto.

During the rally at the town plaza the President and the First Lady were presented with resolutions of the provincial board adopting them as son and daughter of the province:

After the mass oath-taking which took place during a public rally in front of the capitol building, the President proceeded to the inauguration rites of the Bureau of Agricultural Extension building where the First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon.

The provincial and local officials who took their oath included Provincial Board Members Juan Misa and Vicente Felarca; Mayors Atilano Ortega of Iba, who is also president of the Zambales Mayors League, Mauricio Echon of Candelaria, Pedro Edano of Masinloc, Buenaventura Altares of Palauig, Florentino Dullo of Botolan, Jose Mendigoren of Cabangan, Vicente Rosete of San Felipe, Alberto Alino of San Antonio, Federico Felarca of San Marcelino, Sebastian Fogata of San Narciso, and Dominador Bundan of Castillejos.

The mass affiliation virtually wiped out all opposition in the province since the three other mayors affiliated with the LP during the first visit of President Macapagal there last month.

Among those who witnessed, the oath-taking were Reps. Marcial Pimentel, Vicente Pimentel, Reynaldo Honrado, Gov. Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte, acting Gov. Dominador Danan of Pampanga, BIR Commissioner Jose B. Lingad, and BAE Director Eloy Baluyut.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58 (45), cdxxv-cdxxx.

## **President's Week in Review: November 4-10, 1962**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**November 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent the whole day today going over pending state papers.

The Chief Executive had his appointments cancelled to be able to clear his desk of urgent matters.

Up early this morning, the President and the First Lady motored to the Metropolitan Cathedral in Intramuros where they heard mass.

After motoring for about 45 minutes along Dewey Boulevard, they headed back for Malacañang, arriving at the Palace at 10 a.m.

The Chief Executive started working on state papers at his private study after having a light breakfast.

President Macapagal, who was the object of a scathing attack by former President Carlos P. Garcia the other night, fired back with a telegram:

“The First Lady joins me in extending to you our sincere greetings on your birthday.”

Mr. Garcia's attack against the Macapagal administration was made in a brief speech which he delivered Saturday night on the eve of his 66th birth anniversary.

Although the President chose to send his greetings, Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., on the other hand, took up the cudgels for President Macapagal.

**November 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal instructed Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez this day to enforce customs rules and regulations firmly but courteously.

The President gave the instructions after swearing in Romualdez this morning as concurrently acting customs commissioner, vice Cesar Climaco who was appointed recently as chief of the Presidential Assistant on Community Development.

In his talk with Romualdez shortly after the induction ceremony, the Chief Executive made particular reference to the processing of tourists in view of complaints about “roughness” of some customs personnel in ports of entry.

The President cautioned against undue performance of duties by customs men which can defeat efforts to develop the country's tourist industry and the creation of a better image of the Philippines abroad. He told the new customs chief to crack down on smugglers and syndicates operating at the waterfront and to be more discreet in dealing with tourists coming from abroad.

The Chief Executive took occasion to pay tribute to Climaco for his performance as customs chief and asked Romualdez to continue the “big job” of revitalizing the customs bureau.

He urged customs officials “to infuse a sense of responsibility and morality” in the bureau “by arousing the finer qualities in men through inspiring examples.”

Witnessing the induction of Romualdez were Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., Customs Deputy Commissioner Pablo C. Mariano, Capt. Salvador Yenke of the intelligence unit of the customs bureau, Joaquin Chung, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Norberto Romualdez III, ex-Mayors Simeon Kempis and Luis Trinchera of Dulag and Tolosa, Leyte, respectively, and division chiefs of the Bureau of Customs.

Later this morning the Chief Executive received provincial and city official who took up with him various local matters, including public works projects.

Those who called on the Chief Executive were Govs. Corazon Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Sur, Pedro Dizon of Bataan, Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Arsenio Villarosa of Occidental Mindoro, Melanio T. Singson of Isabela, Dominador S. Asis of Camarines Norte, and Claro Robles of Quezon; Mayor Camilo Cabili of Iligan City; Vice-Govs. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental and Levi R. Romero of Romblon; Provincial Board Member Nicanor Lopez of Catanduanes; and Councilors Enberto Remigio and Juan Baluyot of Manila.

Robles also reported to the President on his observations during his tour of the United States and European countries under the foreign leaders grant of the U.S. department of industries

With Singson in calling on the Chief Executive were Provincial Board Member Felicisimo Pinpin, Mayor Ricardo Paguirigan of Ilagan, and Councilor Faustino Dy of Cauayan, Isabela.

The President approved today the recommendation of Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., to retain indefinitely the 20 per cent export retention on export proceeds "in order to meet the financial requirements of implementing the projects in the socio-economic program of the Administration."

The Chief Executive said both Central Bank Gov. Andres Castillo and Albert Mattera, International Monetary Fund adviser at the CB, were in accord with the recommendation for being "in harmony with the requirements of the economy."

In approving the recommendation, the President at the same time directed Perez to adopt the 20 per cent retention as the policy to be followed by the Administration's representatives in the CB Monetary Board.

This evening President Macapagal hailed the visit here of Japanese Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko as the beginning of a new era in the relations between Japan and the Philippines and expressed the hope that "the keynote of those relations will always be harmony and peace."

In his remarks at the state dinner held at Malacañang in honor of the royal couple, the President said the Philippines will march forward with Japan in closer harmony and cooperation in pursuit of common ideals.

The visiting couple arrived this afternoon aboard a Japan Airlines plane for a five-day state visit.

The Chief Executive said the Filipino people are gratified to note that Japan has turned to the ways of democracy, and its people have completely discredited militarism.

"You are now enjoying a prosperity almost unequalled in the history of nations," he said, "and your merchants and traders are reaching out for the farthest confines of the earth."

"As your immediate neighbors," the President added, "we hope to share with you the boon that comes from this increased prosperity. Happily for our two peoples, already there are definite trends in this direction."

The President asked Prince Akihito to convey to their Imperial Majesties, the Emperor and the Empress of Japan, our gratitude for sending you to us as bearers of goodwill and amity."

The Chief Executive concluded his speech with a toast to the health and happiness of the visiting royal couple and for the continued peace and well-being of the people of Japan.

*A rigodon he honor* was among the highlights of the state dinner tendered at Malacañang this evening by President and Mrs. Macapagal in honor of visiting Japanese Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko.



The Philippine Army Chamber Orchestra conducted by Lt. Col. Jesus del Carmen and Lt. Peregrino T. Aledia provided the music. The orchestra rendered the Japanese and the Philippine National anthems and folk-songs.

President Macapagal expressed his condolence this evening to the family of the late Gov. Nicanor Maronilla Seva of Albay who died Sunday night.

In a wire to Mrs. Seva, the President said: "The First Lady and I join your family in your grief. Governor Seva's death is an immeasurable loss not only to the people of Albay, who he served sincerely, but to the nation as a whole."

Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal also condoled with the faculty, alumni, and students of the Centro Escolar University on the death of Miss Carmen Luna, CEU co-founder and president.

**November 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal inspected this morning the new building of the Emergency Employment Administration on España extension in Quezon City and inquired into the latest steps taken in the implementation of EEA projects.

The Chief Executive left Malacañang at 10 a.m. after seeing off Japan's Prince Akihito and his wife, Princess Michiko who motored to Tagaytay City to attend a luncheon tendered in their honor by Vice-President and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez at the Taal Vista Lodge.

During his tour of the building, the President, who is also EEA administrator, inquired into the various aspects of planning and programming of EEA projects.

With the aid of charts and maps, Acting Administrator Eleuterio Adevos and division chiefs explained the organizational setup of each division, their functions, and the systematic and scientific methods which will guide them in carrying out EEA projects.

After conferring briefly with Adevos and the division chiefs, the President motored back to Malacañang arriving in time for lunch.

In the afternoon he presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

The President appointed this day former Labor Secretary Angel Castañón as minority representative to the Emergency Employment Administration Board. The Liberal representative will be announced later, the President said.

In a meeting with the Cabinet this afternoon, the Chief Executive proposed an employment crash program to create a "splurge of jobs" for the months of December and January.

At the same time, he ordered a special committee composed of Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., Assistant Executive Secretary for Economic Affairs Sixto Roxas III, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, and Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia to handle the launching of the Administration's massive employment program tomorrow

During the meeting the President also:

- (1) Created a special committee to study present laws that need amendment to make them conform with the Administration's socio-economic program, composed of Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag as chairman, and PIA Director Sixto Roxas III and NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, as members;

- (2) Created a special committee to review and study electric rates all over the country to protect customers and franchise holders; and

(3) Instructed Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño and Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., to convoke conferences of all department undersecretaries and other ranking government officials on the drive against graft and corruption.

In this connection the President said that a new spirit of public service should be infused down the line government personnel.

He also said that henceforth the Cabinet will meet every Monday.

Malacañang turned down this evening the appeal of the International Amateur Basketball Federation to reconsider its decision banning the entry here of Yugoslavian basketball player.

Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño cabled Malacañang's decision to Sen. Ambrosio Padilla in Madrid, Spain.

Mariño said that in studying the appeal of the IABF, the Administration even went as far as to find out whether the IABF is a specialized agency of the United Nations as claimed by some quarters who based their opinion on the fact that the IABF is said to be affiliated with the International Council of Sports and Physical Education.

Mariño said that neither the IABF nor the ICSPE is a UN specialized agency. According to him, both are non-governmental organizations which do not qualify for exemption to the Administration's policy of denying entry to communist athletes into the country for reasons of national security.

He added that the UNESCO expressed willingness to sponsor the World Basketball tournament.

The decision to ban the entry of Yugoslavian athletes was made by the Cabinet. The President concurred with the Cabinet's decision.

The last Nacionalista administration also denied the issuance of visas to the Yugoslavian and Russian basketball players.

**November 7.**—THIS morning the President visited the Bureau of Customs to find out for himself the problems at the piers.

He found out that newly-appointed Customs Commissioner Norberto Romualdez was not at his office. He arrived shortly afterwards. The Chief Executive was met by Deputy Commissioner Pablo C. Mariano, who appraised the Chief Executive of the problems facing the Bureau of Customs.

While the President was at the customs office Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., arrived and accompanied the Chief Executive in his inspection of the different offices in the bureau.

Upon his return to Malacañang, the President received members of the International Monetary Fund mission. Those who saw the President were D. S. Savkar, P. Narvekar, and R. Kalivoda. They were accompanied by Central Bank Governor Andres V. Castillo and A. Mattera, a CB consultant.

This evening President and Mrs. Macapagal accompanied Japan's Crown Prince Akihito and Crown Princess Michiko to the concert of the Quezon City Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra.

Before leaving for the concert, the President presided over his weekly press conference at the social hall of the Palace.

The President welcomed the Japanese newsmen who arrived here to "cover" the visit of the royal couple.

The President said today that he was mulling the command responsibility question in acting on the Philippine National Bank scandal involving the release of the P4 million worth of spurious letters of credit.

At his weekly press conference the President said he will act swiftly on the case. He minimized the amount involved in the irregularities. He said "the amount can easily be recovered."

The President also reiterated that there will be no whitewash in the case.

He pointed out that Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag has submitted to Malacañang his final report on the PNB swindle cases but has not made any recommendation. Liwag, the President said, merely submitted his findings and gave the President a "free hand" to decide on the complicity of officials or employees of the bank.

At the regular press conference, the President:

1. Proposed amendments to the election law to minimize frauds, expenses, and undue influence on the voter;
2. Appealed for constructive cooperation to labor leaders of workers in government corporations which are losing in their operations;
3. Washed his hands off on the failure of executive officials to appear before the Senate Blue Ribbon committee hearing yesterday saying that "their action did not reach my level;"
4. Announced the approval by the World Bank of a Philippine loan amounting to \$3,700,000 for the National Power Corporation which he said is a significant event indicating the growth confidence of foreign financial institutions in the developing economy of the country;
5. Favored in principle the bill of Rep. Inocencio V. Ferrer (N-Negros Occidental) outlawing "turncoatism;" and
6. Promised to act in due time on the aborted Muslim pilgrims case, road sign case, and the petition of the National Press Club for a list of newsmen in the Stonehill payroll.

Asked whether he would call top PNB officials to explain their side on the swindle cases, the President said: "I will handle the case as I see fit in the interest of public welfare and justice."

President Macapagal said that he will apply the command responsibility doctrine in the PNB case. However, he did not want to explain the concept of the theory of command responsibility as applied to the PNB and other government corporations or offices.

He said the PNB will provide the test case in which he may crystallize the Administration's concept of command responsibility as applied to government offices and other agencies.

The President likewise said he favored the proposal to outlaw "turncoatism" which is the switching of parties of elected government officials during the term of their office.

"I agree with the proposal in principle," he said.

He pointed out that he had been against turncoats and stated that it was part of the Liberal Party plan.

On the claim of Sen. Almendras that he had converted Liberal leaders to the Nacionalista fold, the President said he did not recognize any of the names of those who allegedly bolted the majority party.

“All I can say is that I don’t know any of the names; so I can’t assume the veracity of the reports,” the President said.

**November 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal convoked a meeting today of all government officials from department secretaries to heads of offices, including chairmen and general managers of government-controlled corporations, for a thorough understanding of the Administration’s program of government.

In his talk to them at the Palace social hall the President said that only through a clear understanding of the government’s efforts to give the widest opportunity to all for a better life can the best in those in the public service be expected.

He asked the government officials to make their respective subordinates understand the true objectives of the Administration to arouse their sense of duty and dedication.

This morning the President motored to the customs offices at the Manila international airport to acquaint himself with the operations of the airport branch of the Bureau of Customs.

Upon arrival at the MIA at about 9:40 a.m., the President immediately asked acting Customs Collector Salvador Mascardo for a copy of the budget and the organizational chart and went over them.

He also conferred with Mascardo and Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Jr., concurrently acting customs commissioner, on the functions of each customs unit in the airport and on proposed improvements of customs services.

The President publicly commended customs special agent Socorro de Guzman for foiling two MIA policemen yesterday from spiriting away two luggage containing transistor radios and nylon hose on which tax of P10,000 had been levied.

In commending De Guzman, the President said: “You have not only made a name for yourself; you have also bolstered the record of your own unit.”

On the other hand, he upbraided a clerk, Jose Sarmiento, for appearing unconcerned when the President entered a room adjacent to his office of the Customs Collector.

“If you cannot be courteous to your President, how can you be courteous to the public?” he said.

After making a round of the different customs offices in the terminal building with Romualdez and Mascardo, the President motored back to Malacañang arriving at the Palace at 11 a.m.

Proceeding directly to his study, he received Chairman Luis Lopez of the Philippine Sugar Institute, who consulted him on matters concerning his office.

President Macapagal expressed today deep sorrow over the death of Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, widow of the famous United States President, and said “the whole world has become poorer by the loss of so great a humanitarian.”

In his cablegram to Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., the President said: “Mrs. Macapagal and I were distressed to hear of the death of your distinguished mother whose names and fame are legend all over the world.

“We from the Philippines,” he added, “remember her as the wife of the American Chief Executive who stayed longest in the “White House in U.S. history and who continued to play an active role in many fields after the death of her illustrious husband.”

The President signed this day a proclamation declaring the period from November 25 to December 1 as History Week.

In issuing the proclamation, the Chief Executive said “it is necessary that such an important event be brought to the attention of the people to arouse historical consciousness and inculcate in their minds the value of knowledge of the past as a guide in the task of nation-building.”

**November 9.**—THIS morning the Chief Executive made a second surprise visit to the Bureau of Customs and inquired into the procedures being followed in the examination and appraisal of incoming shipments.

Leaving the Palace at 9 a.m., the President went direct to the baggage room of Pier 9 where he inspected its bodegas, processing rooms for tourists and transients and returning residents, and reception rooms which are nearing completion.

He then crossed the street to the appraisers division where Augusto Africa, the division chief, briefed him on the stages of examining and appraising incoming cargoes.

Acting Customs Commissioner Norberto Romualdez, Jr., and acting Customs Collector Teotimo Roja accompanied the President in his visit to the customs bodegas and other offices.

After giving instructions to Romualdez and Roja, the President motored back to Malacañang where he conferred with Chairman Juan Borra of the Commission on Elections on matters concerning his office.

This evening President and Mrs. Macapagal attended a state dinner at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel tendered in their honor by Japan’s Crown Prince Akihito and his wife, Princess Michiko.

In his response to the remarks of the Crown Prince, the President said that the Philippines welcomes Japan’s cooperation in the field of culture and social welfare.

The President signed today a proclamation declaring the period from December 9 to 15 as Government Employees Week.

In signing the proclamation, the President said “it is necessary that government employees be encouraged to achieve greater efficiency in the public service.”

The attainment of this objective, he said, demands that public attention be focused on the invaluable services rendered by government employees.

He urged “all citizens and residents of the Philippines as well as schools and civic organizations to turn their thoughts to the honest, loyal, and devoted government employees in grateful appreciation of the services rendered by them.”

The Chief Executive also said that the week “should be devoted to the attainment of maximum service efficiency and the highest degree of harmony and cooperation between the public and the employees.”

This evening the President granted executive clemency to 22 strikers who were convicted for resistance and disobedience to agents in authority during the height of a strike in 11 haciendas in the La Carlota milling district in Pontevedra, Negros Occidental, last October 22.

The President’s lenient move toward the strikers was prompted by reports that they were led into believing that forming a human blockade on the railroad tracks was part of legal and peaceful picketing.

The Chief Executive was informed that the 22 strikers who were convicted by the Pontevedra justice of the peace court were packed in a small cell in the Pontevedra municipal jail which ordinarily could only accommodate two to three persons. He was also told that they were starving because the municipal government could not afford to provide food to the strikers.

Upon receipt of official reports on the pitiful conditions which the strikers are undergoing in the Pontevedra municipal jail, the President immediately ordered the granting of executive clemency to all of them.

**November 10.**—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Macapagal led thousands in seeing off Japan's Crown Prince Akihito and his wife, Princess Michiko, who left for home shortly before noon today on board a chartered Japan Air Lines jetliner after a five-day state visit to this country.

Also on hand to wish the royal couple a "pleasant trip" were the three Macapagal children, Cabinet members, and members of the diplomatic corps.

The presidential family and the royal couple left Malacañang at 10:15 a.m. for the airport. Crowds along the route bade the Prince and his wife goodbye as the cars bearing them passed by.

On arrival at the airport, they were accorded military honors by a composite battalion of the Armed Forces. A 21-gun salute boomed as the Philippine and the Japanese national anthems were played.

The President and his family left the airport after the plane bearing the state visitors took off at 11:05.

Earlier this morning they had a private breakfast with the Prince and his wife at the Palace state dining room. An exchange of gifts followed.

The President and the First Lady presented the Prince and the Princess with a shell flower arrangement framed with a beautiful inlaid capis shells, a Japanese shape low table also inlaid with capis shells, and oil painting entitled *Planting Rice* by R. Enriquez, one *piña* set, two autographed framed pictures of themselves, copies of the *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Felibusterismo*, a book entitled *New Hope for the Common Men* with a personal dedication of the President, a bronze medallion with the Prince's side view picture on one side and the President's on the other, five pictorial albums, and several newspaper clippings on the royal couple's visit.

The royal couple presented the President and the First Lady with among others, a porcelain vase, a Japanese jewelry box, and two cameras.

In the afternoon the President received the Japanese correspondents who covered the state visit here of the Prince and the Princess.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., and Paul Kurokochi, press attaché of the local Japanese Embassy, accompanied them in calling on the Chief Executive.

The President has signed a proclamation authorizing the Philippine Cancer Society, Inc., to conduct a nation-wide educational, membership and fund drive from December 1, 1962, to January 31, 1963.

Cancer Society, Inc., to conduct a nation-wide educational membership, and killer-diseases in the Philippines today and its prevention and control are matters of urgent and nation-wide concern.

He called upon "all citizens and residents of the Philippines, irrespective of nationality, race, or creed, to assist in this humanitarian campaign by giving generously of their means so that it may be a complete success."

He also authorized and called on all national, provincial, city and municipal government officials and employees to extend full and unconditional cooperation to the campaign.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58 (46), cdxxxiii-cdxl.

## **President's Week in Review: November 11-17, 1962**

### **Official Week in Review**

**November 11.**—THIS morning the President went over pending state papers which had piled up during the visit of Japan's Crown Prince Akihito.

Before leaving the Palace for Punta, Sta. Ana, the President and the First Lady made a tour of the different offices in Malacañang.

Upon visiting the press office, the President played a round of pocket billiards with Francisco de Leon of the *Manila Chronicle*.

President Macapagal this afternoon made a surprise ocular inspection of the future site of another tenement housing project in Punta, Santa Ana, which is aimed at providing shelter to homeless residents of that district of Manila.

The site which is more than 11 hectares was formerly an alien property turned over to the defunct NAFCO and later to the Board of Liquidators for administration and disposition.

Accompanied by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria, the President, after surveying the site, said he has also given the go signal for the location of tenement building sites in the second and third districts of Manila which are also thickly populated.

The Chief Executive disclosed that he expects Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia to turn in his reports on the proposed tenement housing projects for the Sta. Cruz and Sampaloc districts.

The first project which is aimed at relieving congested areas in the city where work is now going on is located in Vitas, Tondo.

One of the President's pet projects, these tenement buildings are aimed at providing more salutary living conditions to homeless and small-income groups.

From Sta. Ana, the President motored to the Luneta where he viewed the exhibits of the Manila Arts Group. From the Luneta, the President, the First Lady, and daughter Gloria went to the Metropolitan Cathedral where they heard mass.

**November 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal discussed with Mayor Antonio Villegas the implementation of a four-point program traffic problems.

Discussed were the beautification of the Luneta, establishment of more tenement houses, in the city's four districts, early implementation of the Emergency Employment Administration projects in the city, and flood control projects.

Villegas informed the President that a nine-men transportation and survey group is arriving shortly from the United States to study the city's traffic problems.

Earlier the President conferred with Speaker Cornelio Villareal, who arrived Saturday from the United States where he underwent medical treatment. The Speaker was accompanied by Rep. Ramon Bagatsing of Manila.

After his conference with the House leader, the President received U.S. Federal Judge and Mrs. Sherrill Halbert of California, who were accompanied by Manila Mayor Antonio Villegas.



Judge Halbert, who is president of the Sacramento-Manila Friendship Association, arrived with his wife on November 2 as official guests of Mayor Villegas. They are scheduled to return to the U.S. on Wednesday, November 14.

During his call Judge Halbert gave the President a golden pan “as a token of the high esteem of the people of Sacramento, California.” The pan was an exact replica of those of the original “forty-niners” used during the gold rush in San Francisco. The President also received from Halbert a miniature pony express with the zeal and emblem of the city of Sacramento embossed in it.

This morning the President conferred with Education Secretary Alejandro Roces, Sens. Francisco Rodrigo and Gaudencio Antonino, Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, and Solicitor General Arturo Alafriz.

Among those who called on the Chief Executive at his study were several provincial governors, city mayors, and provincial board members.

This afternoon the President received Peter Carjill, head of the Far East department of the International Bank, and Dragoslav Avramovic, who called him to discuss economic problems.

Later the President met with his Cabinet.

Malacañang announced today the United States had agreed to deposit the \$73 million due Philippine war damage claimants with the Central Bank, thus bolstering the country’s dollar reserves and further stabilizing the peso.

The announcement was made following a Cabinet meeting during which C.B. Gov. Andres Castillo reported that he was able to convince Secretary Douglas Dillon of the U.S. treasury department to have the money deposited with the government bank.

This was an exception to the usual procedure, Malacañang said. Usually U.S. Government funds are channeled through an official depository of the U.S. Government, most often an American bank.

During the Cabinet meeting:

1. The President announcement he had lifted the ban on the release of public works funds intended for maintenance and repair of public works. The ban had given the President full control on how public works funds appropriated by Congress should be spent. Malacañang did not explain why the ban was lifted.
2. Commerce Secretary Rufino Hechanova reported that several projects needing government aid were ready to be launched, including an evaporated whole-milk plant scheduled to start operating in January.
3. Hechanova and Castillo reported that the rate of investment in the country had increased by 5.4 per cent.

**November 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received this morning United States Commerce Secretary Luther Hodges, who arrived Monday in the course of a world tour.

Hodges discussed with the President American investment possibilities here and expansion of P.I.-U.S. trade.

During the courtesy call the President took occasion to thank President Kennedy and the U.S. commerce department for their expression of support of the Administration’s socio-economic program.

Hodges was accompanied in his call on the Chief Executive by American Ambassador William E. Stevenson and Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

Later the President received Japanese Ambassador Osama Itagaki, who called to thank him for the warm reception accorded Japan's Crown Prince Akihito and his wife, Princess Michiko, during their recent state visit here.

In the afternoon the President swore in SSS Commissioner Manuel Concordia as Malacañang legislative secretary and former Bulacnn Vice-Gov. Manolo Cruz as board member of the Philippine Homesite and Housing Corporation.

He also conferred with LTA Administrator Jose Espino, Solicitor General Arturo Alafriz, SSS Commissioner Manuel Concordia, Calamba Mayor Taciano Rizal, Jeremias Montemayor, president of the Federation of Free Farmers, and Fernando Santiago.

Other callers included Gov. Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Sur, Government Corporate Council Tomas Matic, and Rep. Gerardo Roxas of Capiz.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., announced this evening that President Macapagal has approved the following recommendations of the Cabinet:

1. To adopt a policy of not placing in the same official the positions of manager and chairman of the board of directors of government corporations; and
2. To restore the usual practice of making either the secretary of justice or the executive secretary as chairman of the board of directors of the PNB.

The Malacañang spokesman said that, pursuant to these policies, the President has designated Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño as chairman of the PNB board in place of Silvestre Punzalan.

Paruñgao said that the President's action was independent of the decision due to be taken on the responsibility of PNB officials in connection with the bank swindles.

**November 14.**—THE President held a round of conferences today with members of Congress on matters affecting their respective districts.

Led by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal and Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, those who met with the Chief Executive were Reps. Luis Hora and Alfredo Lamen of Mountain Province, Juanita Nepomuceno and Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Jovito Salonga of Rizal, Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte, Lucas Paredes of Abra, Eladio Caliwara of Quezon, Manuel Cases of La Union, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao del Norte, Jose Alberto of Catanduanes, Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, Eladio Balite and Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Rasid Lucman of Lanao del Sur, Primo Villasin of Leyte, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Ricardo Ladrado of Iloilo, Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, Tereso Dumon of Cebu, Luis Joson of Mindoro Oriental, Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental, Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur, Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur, and Felicisimo Ocampo of Nueva Ecija.

Following his meeting with the members of Congress, the President had luncheon with Albert Mattera, S. Sankar, Roland Kalivoda, and P. R. Narvecar of the International Monetary Fund. These last three are in the country on a consultation mission with government finance officials.

Also present were Economic Assistant Armand Fabella, Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, Central Bank Deputy Governor Amado Briñas, Manuel Marquez, and Rafael Recto.

Earlier, the Chief Executive administered the oath of office to Raul Bonnevie as director of the Abaca Development Board. Present at the induction ceremony were Reps. Vicente Pimentel, Salvador Encinas, and Luciano Joson, and Juban Mayor Manuel Olandriz.

In the afternoon the President presided over his regular weekly press conference.

He then received Robert Curry of the Copley New Service and Sens. Manuel Manahan, Ambrosio Padilla, Gaudencio Antonino, Camilo Osias, and Francisco Rodrigo.

He also swore in Moises Dalisay as fiscal of Lanao del Norte. Those who witnessed the oath-taking ceremony were Budget Commissioner Amable Aguiluz, Malacañang Financial Assistant and Mrs. Gregorio Manongdo, and Nabunturan Mayor Antonio Tulio.

Later in the evening the President received DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, who invited him to be the guest speaker at the inauguration of the Ozamis City branch of the DBP.

The President ordered today the cancellation of a controversial contract for the government to purchase P6.7 million worth of road signs.

The move, the President told his weekly press conference, was recommended by Justice Secretary Juan Liwag, who rendered an opinion that the contract was null and void because there was no public bidding and the purchasing agency was not authorized to enter into the contract.

The contract was signed between the supplier of the road signs, the Neils Enterprises, and the Department of Public Works. Former Public Works Secretary Paulino Cases, now general manager of the Manila Railroad company, signed for the department.

Although the findings of Secretary Liwag tended to show that Cases overstepped the bounds of his authority when he ordered the Neils Enterprises to start delivering "Neils Flex-O-Lite" road signs, the justice secretary did not recommend anything further than cancellation of the contract.

**November 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal formally launched this day the Administration's massive employment program by entering the name of a laborer in the lists of the Emergency Employment Administration at ceremonies held at the EEA metropolitan project office on Sta. Mesa, Manila.

The President also handed the first EEA labor recruit, Nazario Constantino of 3496 Int. 3 Hipodromo, Sta. Mesa, a symbolic shovel.

Present at the kick-off rites were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, Rep. Ramon Bagatsing, Mayor Antonio Villegas, Vice-Mayor Herminio Astorga, and Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon.

From the EEA project office, the President motored to the residence of Sen. Antonino on Broadway, Quezon City, where he inducted into the Liberal Party nine municipal officials of Banabo, Davao.

The new Liberals are Mayor Gregorio Dujali, Vice-Mayor Pedro Dacumos, and Councilors Rodrigo Mabitan, Pascual Espinosa, Antonio Cero, Abelardo Arguelles, Emilio Rodriguez, Jose Capadocia, and Isidro Dacanay.

The President then viewed the dredging of the *Estero de Alix* in Legarda, Sampaloc, being undertaken by the first batch of laborers recruited by the EEA this morning. Accompanying him were EEA Deputy Administrator Eleuterio Adevosio and EEA Performance Director Emmanuel de Ocampo.

Back to Malacañang at about 11 a.m., the President received Leo D. Welch, chairman of the board of directors of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, who paid him a courtesy call.

In their brief talk Welch informed the Chief Executive that American businessmen have indicated interest in investing in the Philippines because of the excellent investment climate created by the President's economic policies.

Accompanying Welch in his call on the President were Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, ESSO Standard (Eastern) Regional Vice-President George P. Case, ESSO Standard (Philippines) General Manager C. A. Larsen, ESSO Standard (Philippines) PR Manager A. A. Narciso, and Pete Teodoro of Filoil.

The Chief Executive also met with Health Secretary Francisco Q. Duque on release of funds for smallpox vaccines.

In the afternoon the President received the credentials of U Ba Saw as Burma's ambassador to the Philippines at ceremonies held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall. Ambassador U Ba is a non-resident. He is concurrently accredited to Thailand.

Present at the presentation ceremonies were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently foreign affairs secretary, Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag, Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Education Secretary Alejandro Roces, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, OEC Administrator Manuel Cuenco, and Press Secretary Leoncio K. Paruñgao, Jr.

Following the ceremony, the President repaired to his study where he received Sen. Gaudencio Antonino. The Senator, who accompanied Mayor Lucrecio Veroy of Baganga, Davao, requested the President the release of P50,000 for construction of a seawall along the Baganga shoreline facing the Pacific Ocean.

Another presidential caller was Rep. Venancio Ziga of Albay.

President Macapagal today exonerated Dr. Paulino J. Garcia, chairman of the National Science Development Board, of the administrative charges filed against him for alleged electioneering and dishonesty. The President based his decision on the findings of the investigating committee which formally investigated Dr. Garcia of the administrative charges. The committee was composed of former Justices Pastor M. Endencia, Teofilo Sison, and Ramon R. San Jose.

The committee found the charges without merit and recommended the exoneration of the NSDB chairman.

In the administrative order exonerating the NSDB chairman, the President said: "Considering that the facts involved in this case hinge largely on a question of credibility, I have to abide by the conclusions of the learned jurists who had the opportunity to observe the witnesses at close range.

The President signed a proclamation this day declaring the late President Quirino's birthday which falls today as a special public holiday in Ilocos Sur.

In signing the proclamation, the President said he wanted to give full opportunity to the people of Ilocos Sur to celebrate the day with appropriate ceremonies.

**November 16.**—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Macapagal led the nation in paying homage to the late President Elpidio Quirino whose 72nd birthday anniversary was observed in simple rites this day.

The First Couple, together with close relatives and friends and ranking government officials, heard a special mass at St. Paul's church on San Marcelino. They also sent a wreath for the tomb of the late Chief Executive in the South Cemetery in Makati, Rizal.

Shortly after noon the President received and congratulated Aringay policemen and PC soldiers responsible for the apprehension of Muslim smugglers in Samara, Aringay, La Union, last November 12.

Commended by the Chief Executive for the confiscation of 666 cases of blue seal cigarettes worth P450,000 were Aringay Chief of Police Dencio Rulloda; Patrolmen Pedro Zarate, Benjamin de Vera, Rodolfo Mapanao, Mario Dacanay, and Aquilino del Rosario, Jr.; Sgts. Melanio G. Tereso, Alberto Alcara, and Jose Saquilla of the 9th PC

company under Capt. Felipe Apolinar; and Major Sesinando Ruaro. They were accompanied to the Palace by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and Brig. Gen. Ismael Lapuz.

In the evening the President was guest of honor and inducting officer at the induction of the officers and members of the Philippine Chamber of Industries for the year 1962-63 at the Fiesta Pavilion, Manila Hotel.

Inducted by the Chief Executive were Hilarion M. Henares, Jr., president; Antonio C. Delgado, 1st Vice-president; Aurelio Montinola, Jr., 2nd vice-president; Jesus T. Tanchanco, treasurer; Dr. Salvador A. Araneta, Fred O. Borromeo, Victor A. Lim, Dean Felix D. Maramba, Teodorico N. Patag, H. B. Reyes, Leonides S. Virata, directors; Mariano V. del Rosario, ex officio member of the board; and Dr. Augusto Cesar Espiritu, executive secretary.

**November 17.**—EARLY this morning the President worked on pending state papers. He signed the appointments of former Gov. Jovencio Q. Mayor of Romblon as director of lands. Mayor will replace Nicanor Jorge, who had previously been named acting director of lands.

The President also reappointed Manila Councilors Lucina C. Alday and Gerino M. Tolentino.

He later received Mayor Emerito de Jesus of Bacolor, Pampanga, acting press officer of the Department of National Defense.

President Macapagal, accompanied by the First Lady, enplaned at 12:45 p.m. today for Dipolog, Zamboanga del Norte, in line with the President's program of regionalizing Malacañang every-end.

Opposition in Zamboanga del Norte virtually collapsed when Gov. Gaudencio Adaza and 11 municipal mayors, 11 vice-mayors, and 60 municipal councilors joined the majority party in a mass affiliation at Magsaysay Plaza in Dipolog today.

The province with a voting population of 75,000 gave President Macapagal a majority of 3,000 over former President Garcia in the last elections in spite of its being a Nacionalista bastion. Today's mass affiliation is the third in the province. Recently, a group of provincial and municipal officials defected to the Liberal Party.

The President, assisted by Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, administered the oath of affiliation before a large crowd gathered at the town plaza.

The Chief Executive arrived in Dipolog this afternoon with the First Lady. A big crowd led by Gov. Adaza was on hand to welcome them at the airport. Also at the airport were Pendatun, Sen. Eulogio Balao, Reps. Vicente Pimentel and Felicisimo Ocampo, Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, and Gov. Constantino Navarro of Zamboanga del Sur, who flew to Dipolog earlier this morning to join the President.

The First Couple had to inch their way to their car, as enthusiastic welcomers surged forward to shake their hands. From the airport, they rode at the head of a long motorcade to the plaza for the mass affiliation.

During the program President and Mrs. Macapagal were presented a resolution of the provincial board by Gov. Adaza adopting them as son and daughter of the province.

In an inspired extemporaneous speech at the town plaza, the President said there was danger before to democracy because it was becoming a way of life only for the strong, the rich, and the powerful.

Recalling his campaign "in every nook and corner of the country," he said the people accomplished a miracle when they decided that one who had come from a poor family can be elected to the highest position in the land.

He also recalled before the large cheering crowd that although he put up a stiff fight in Mindanao, he won in only three provinces.

He said he won in Oriental Misamis because it is the province of his running mate, Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez; in Lanao del Norte, because it is the second home province of Mrs. Macapagal; and in Zamboanga del Norte, because people here “appreciate the principle he is fighting for.”

“You supported me because you also wanted to prove that elections are not only won by those entrenched in power,” he said.

The President was introduced by Rep. Alberto Q. Ubay, who along with Gov. Guadalupe Adaza, led hundreds of mayors, vice-mayors, municipal councilors, barrio officials, and other Nacionalista leaders who affiliated with the Liberal Party.

Other speakers were Adaza, who delivered the welcome remarks, and Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun. Pendatun expressed confidence in the ability of the present Administration to push through the economic development of Mindanao.

After the induction ceremonies, the First Couple proceeded to the Philippine National Bank branch where they had *merienda*. They had their dinner at the residence of Rep. Alberto Q. Ubay, where they stayed for the night.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58 (47), cdxliii-cdxlviii.

## President's Week in Review: November 18-24, 1962

### Official Week in Review

**November 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned at 7:05 this evening from a two-day barnstorming tour of Zamboanga del Norte and Lanao del Norte, where he inducted more Nacionalistas into the Liberal Party.

The Chief Executive accompanied by the First Lady, returned aboard the presidential *Friendship* Fokker plane. They took off from Iligan City where the President motored after inducting NP leaders in Marawi City into the LP.

The President and Mrs. Macapagal passed by Iligan City to visit the farm house of Mrs. Macaraeg, President Macapagal's mother-in-law.

After an overnight stay in Dipolog City, the President and Mrs. Macapagal led a motorcade to Marawi City and arrived at the capital of Lanao del Sur shortly before noon time.

Upon his arrival at Marawi City, the President officiated at the inauguration of the Mindanao University.

In a speech delivered at the inauguration, President Macapagal pledged the UM "shall open its gates to the youths from all walks of life, rich and poor alike."

"It shall be nonsectarian, open to children of all creeds and persuasions. The Mindanao University is a school that is common to all, because it must be part of the birthright of every Filipino child," he said.

"In more ways than one, the Mindanao University is an answer to a need—a compelling need—to provide the Filipino youths with equal opportunities for learning," he stated.

"For while it is true that the government has established and continues to establish schools as part of the national education program, most of these centers of learning are concentrated in Manila and other cities.

"Consequently, thousands of our young men and women who live in remote areas, such as Mindanao, find the cost of higher education, even of vocational education, far beyond their reach. Thus, they are denied the opportunities for advancement, for developing their God-given talents and capacities," the President said.

**November 19.**—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Macapagal officiated today at the cornerstone-laying of the "The Fourth Estate" housing project of the National Press Club at Sucat, Parañaque, Rizal.

In his brief remarks at the ceremony the President assured members of the working press of his full support in attaining better living conditions.

The First Couple motored to the housing site this morning accompanied by SSS Administrator Rene Espina and HFC Chairman Pedro Bandoquillo. After partaking of a *merienda* served at the project's administration building, the President motored back to Malacañang and conferred with provincial and city executives on problems of their respective localities.

Those who met with the Chief Executive were Govs. Jose Evanselista of Ilocos Norte, Francisco Nepomuceno accompanied by Dominador Danan of Pampanga, Corazon Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Melanio T. Singson of Isabela, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, Lope Damaso of Bukidnon, Democrito O. Plaza of Agusan, Benjamin Abubakar of Sulu, Jose Esteves of Albay; Vice-Gov Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental; City Mayors Luis Los Baños of Legaspi, Salvador Calo of Butuan, Hilarion Ramiro of Ozamis; Provincial Board Members Nicanor Lopez of Catanduanes, Proculo Fuentes of Davao, Apolonio Ponio of Pampanga; Manila Vice-Mayor Herminio Astorga and Councilors Leonardo Fugoso and Juan Baluyot of Manila; and Acting Laguna Gov. Ruben de Roma.

The President then administered the oath of affiliation to municipal officials of Callang, Isabela.

Inducted into the LP fold were Mayor Fermin Santiago, Vice-Mayor Simeon Trapse, and Councilors Tiburcio Domingo, Florentino Padua, Benjamin Hapol, Ulpiano Lopez, Arsenio Concepcion, and Alejandro Segucio.

Informed by Rep. Tobias Fornier of the desire of Antique officials to affiliate with the LP, the President motored to the congressman's residence in San Juan, Rizal, and inducted Gov. Josue L. Cadiao and Mayors Alfredo B. Magluya of Laua-an, Pedro L. Gindap of Barbaza, Santiago A. Lotilla of Sibalom and Silverio Amedo, Jr., of Balison.

In the afternoon the President received American Ambassador William Stevenson, who informed him of the forthcoming visit here of a team of American legislator headed by Sen. Mike Mansfield. The Ambassador is setting up the schedule between the President and the American senator and legislators.

The Chief Executive also received Rafael Recto, president of the Citizens Bank and Trust company who was earlier invited by the President for a conference.

After his meeting with Recto the President presided over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

Malacañang indicated today that the crime incidence in the country had gone down and the anti-smuggling drive of the Administration had been more successful than that of the past regime.

Following a Cabinet meeting, Malacañang released a report of Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., showing that:

1. Crimes against persons dropped from 3,822 in 1961 to 3,190 in 1962; and
2. Crimes against property dropped from 1,560 in 1961 to 1,189 in 1962.

However, these figures did not include crimes committed in Manila.

Malacañang also released the report of Presidential Assistant Eleuterio Adevosio, chairman of the Cabinet committee on smuggling, showing that since the Administration took over the reins of the government:

1. A total of 1,107 persons had been caught smuggling and 783 cases had been charged in court; and
2. A total of P16 million worth of smuggled cigarettes had been confiscated by the Armed Forces as against P350,000 worth of "blue seal" cigarettes confiscated last year.

During the Cabinet meeting National Economic Coordinator Manuel Cuenco reported that he had approved all five projects scheduled for the \$3 million Angat (Bulacan) multi-purpose dam.

President Macapagal signed a proclamation today declaring Thursday, November 22, as a special public holiday for national thanksgiving.

In the proclamation the President called upon the people "to turn their thoughts on that day to the Lord and offer him prayer of thanks for all the blessings He had bestowed upon us."

**November 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal acted this morning to forestall a prolongation of the paralyzation of arrastre services as he instructed Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., and Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, Jr., concurrently customs commissioner, to study means of settling the two-day strike in the piers.

The strike, the second in two weeks, was staged in protest against government authorities for not making provisions for the arrastre workers' status in the plan to return over the arrastre services to private hands.



Romualdez explained that private firms would not submit bids on the arrastre, service if a provision on the status of pier workers is included.

The bidding on the transfer of arrastre management was scheduled for November 23.

After conferring with Rodrigo and Romualdez, the President received Abelardo Subido, chief of the reparations mission in Tokyo, Industry Undersecretary Benjamin Tabios, and Francisco Ortigas.

Subido, who returned yesterday from his post, reported to the President on the operation of his office in Japan. He is scheduled to assume the position of Commissioner of Civil Service sometime next week.

Undersecretary Tabios took up with the President matters concerning the province of Bukidnon.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive conferred with Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Don Manuel Elizalde, and SQA Administrator Conrado Manalansang on the sugar supply in the country.

He also conferred with Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently foreign affairs secretary, Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag, and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.

The President then administered the oath of office to Hadji Jainudin Nuño as acting assistant of the President Assistant on Community Development (PACD). Nuño will take care of Muslim projects in Mindanao, particularly fishing techniques.

Present at the induction ceremony were PACD Chief Cesar Climaco; Fauruk Nufio and Abdul Mubin T. Nufio, Nufio's son and brother, respectively, Abdul H. Bandaying, and Jose Bucoy, Jr.

The Chief Executive also met with Education Secretary Alejandro Roces and Ambassador Librado Cayco on the three-day official visit here of Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands which starts tomorrow.

This evening President Macapagal appointed Rafael S. Recto, president of the Philippine National Bank, in place of Bienvenido Y. Dizon who resigned last week.

Recto will be elected director and PNB president in a special meeting of the board of directors at the UST Hospital room of Executive Secretary Salvador L. Marino, concurrently PNB chairman, at 9 o'clock this morning.

The President this evening received Sen. Ferdinand E. Marcos, who returned the other day from the United Nations. Marcos reported on his stint in the UN and later discussed the political situation and plans of gaining control over the Senate in the coming congressional session next year.

**November 21.**—THIS morning the President received at his private study 23 congressmen who conferred with him on varied problems confronting their respective districts.

The President also inducted Mayor Jose D. Mandana of Mainit, Surigao del Norte, into the Liberal Party.

President Macapagal spent almost the whole day meeting two visiting dignitaries at the Manila International Airport, Indonesian President Sukarno and Princess Beatrix of Netherlands.

Shortly before noontime the Chief Executive motored to the MIA and personally met Indonesian President Sukarno, who stopped over in Manila en route home to Jakarta from Tokyo.

President Macapagal accompanied Sukarno to Malacañang and lunched with him. With them were Indonesian Foreign Minister Subandrio and Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs.

In the afternoon the President also decided to go to the MIA and welcome personally visiting Netherlands Princess Beatrix.

Both President Sukarno and Princess Beatrix were accorded full military honors by a composite battalion of the AFP, including 21-gun salute, upon their arrival while the national anthems of the their countries were being played. President Sukarno was wearing grey suit and pants and a black fes and carried a swagger stick.

With Sukarno upon his arrival were Minister of Foreign Affairs Subandrio; Commerce Minister Suhario; Basic Education and Culture Minister Prijono; Mr. Dasaad, member of the supreme advisory council; Jussuf Muda Delam, president of the National State Bank, Brig. General Parman, senior officer of the army; Mines Minister Saleh; Minister Auprayogi; Jakarta Mayor Brig. Gen. Sumarno; and General Santoso, secretary to the President.

On hand to welcome the Indonesian leader were members of the Cabinet and the diplomatic corps headed by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently foreign affairs secretary, members of the local Indonesian community, and a sizeable crowd that had gathered at the airport earlier.

As soon as the door of the plane bearing Sukarno opened, Education Secretary Alejandro Roces, who is also chairman of the committee on state visits, went up the ramp with Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Pamontjak to fetch the Indonesian Chief of State.

A round of applause greeted the Indonesian President as he came into view at the door of the plane.

After the airport ceremonies Presidents Macapagal and Sukarno boarded the presidential car and motored to Malacañang where a luncheon in honor of the Indonesian leader and his party was tendered by the Philippine Chief Executive.

The first thing that Sukarno did upon arrival at Malacañang was to sign the palace guest book. While at the reception room, President Sukarno introduced members of his party to President Macapagal and Cabinet members present. At the cocktail that followed, the two chiefs of state exchanged views on world affairs, particularly those pertaining to Asia, like the India-China border conflict.

Present at the luncheon aside from the members of President Sukarno's party were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, Commerce Secretary Rufino Hechanova, Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Education Secretary Alejandro Roces, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Senator Raul Manglapus, Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, Assistant Executive Secretary for Economic Affairs Sixto Roxas III, and Ambassador Librado Cayco.

After the luncheon President Macapagal presented President Sukarno with a box of Philippine cigars as a send-off gift.

President Sukarno left at exactly 3 p.m. on board the *Garuda* Indonesia Airways plane *Bebas*, after he and President Macapagal hugged each other as an expression of friendship and affection.

Princess Beatrix arrived on board a Swissair jetliner at about 5:30 p.m. She was originally scheduled to arrive at 4:40 p.m.

She was radiant in her black printed white dress, smiling all the way as she was greeted by the President and introduced to members of the Cabinet and the diplomatic corp.

The Princess, accompanied by the Chief Executive, also trooped the line.

With the Princess on her arrival were Mrs. E. L. Baroness Sweerts de Lindas Wyborgh-de Meyier, lady in waiting; Dr. C. J. Van Schelle, minister plenipotentiary; C. Sesink, senior police commissioner; G. Pauli, lieutenant commander of the Royal Netherlands Navy; and her private secretary, M. C. Wijnen.

Military honors over, the Princess boarded the presidential car with the President and his daughter Gloria for the Manila Hotel where she will stay during her visit here.

After escorting Princess Beatrix to the Manila Hotel, the President received a delegation of mayors from Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, and Cagayan headed by Sen. Ferdinand Marcos.

The mayors took up with the President the release of funds for public works projects in their respective municipalities.

He also received Senator Rogelio de la Rosa, who reported on his tour of the United States and Europe. The Senator presented to the President the fountain pen used in the signing of the \$73 million war damage bill. He said he was requested by President Kennedy to present the pen to President Macapagal.

Other callers this evening were Sens. Francisco Rodrigo., and Camilo Osias, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, and Agusan Gov. Democrito Plaza.

**November 22.**—THIS noon the President and Mrs. Macapagal honored Netherlands Crown Princess Beatrix with a luncheon at the Palace.

Princess Beatrix arrived yesterday for a three-day visit to the Philippines.

The Princess entered Malacañang at 12:11 p.m. accompanied by Baroness Sweert de Landas Wyborgh-de Meyier, lady in waiting; Dr. C. J. Van Schelle; minister plenipotentiary; Ambassador Jacobus van der Zwaal; and Commander C. Pauli, aide de camp to the Princess.

Upon her arrival at the Palace, the visiting Crown Princess signed the Malacañang registry book and was escorted to the music room.

The Princess introduced to the First Couple the members of her party, after which the President introduced the First Lady.

President and Mrs. Macapagal also formally introduced their children, Arturo, and Gloria, who were on hand to welcome the royal visitor to Malacañang.

The First Couple then escorted the Princess and members of her suite to the ceremonial hall, where the luncheon guests were formally introduced to the Princess.

Among the guests were Vice-President and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez, Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, Senator and Mrs. Ferdinand E. Marcos, Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon, Msgr. Salvatore Siino, Ambassador and Mrs. William Stevenson, Education Secretary and Mrs. Alejandro R. Roces, Mrs. Trinidad Roxas, Rep. and Mrs. Gerardo Roxas, and Mr. and Mrs. Benigno Toda, Jr.

This afternoon the President worked on pending state papers.

In the evening the President left for Albay where he was scheduled to bring in more Nacionalista leaders into the, Liberal Party.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, left aboard a special train at the Sta. Mesa railroad station for Legaspi City.

It was learned that the President will induct Gov. Jose Estevez and other NP leaders into the Liberal Party.

**November 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal predicted today that the Philippines will even surpass Japan in economic prosperity if the present rate of economic growth of the country is maintained.

The President made the prediction in an extemporaneous speech at the laying of the cornerstone of the P300,000-Ziga Memorial Hospital in Tabaco, Albay, this morning.

Speaking in Pilipino, the President also paid tribute to the late Rep. Lorenzo Ziga for his sincere and dedicated service not only to the province of Albay but also to the nation.

The President based his faith in the full economic progress of the country in its vast untapped natural resources which, he said, await only proper exploitation and development.

In paying tribute to the late Rep. Ziga, the President said the hospital dedicated to his memory is not only a monument for him but for all those in the government whose lives are dedicated to the service of the people.

The Chief Executive also cited SWA Administrator Tecla San Andres Ziga and Rep. Venancio Ziga, who, he said, are living up to the ideals established by the late Congressman.

On the problem of prices, the President said the Administration has checked their rise through sound economic measures.

He said the Philippines ranks second in the world in terms of low prices. This shows, he said, soundness of economic measures undertaken by the government at present.

In another speech at the island town of Rapu-Rapu, the President explained to the people his program of government, including his fight against graft and corruption and his five-year socio-economic program.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady and Reps. Pedro Trono of Iloilo and Venancio Ziga of Albay, entrained for Albay this evening.

A large crowd led by Gov. Jose S. Esteves and Legaspi City Mayor Luis Los Baños welcomed the Chief Executive and his party upon their arrival at the station this morning.

From the station, the President and the First Lady rode at the head of a long motorcade to the town of Tabaco, some 27 kilometers away, for the cornerstone-laying ceremonies.

After the program the President and his party proceeded to the town's wharf where they boarded the *RPS Raja Soliman* for the island town of Rapu-Rapu, some 45 nautical miles from Tabaco along Legaspi Gulf.

After sailing for three hours on board the Philippine Navy ship, the Chief Executive and members of the party transferred to a PN motorboat and then to a motorized wooden barge for the town's shore. A big enthusiastic crowd lined the shoreline in spite of intermittent rain early this afternoon. The First Couple then proceeded to the town's Catholic church for a *Te Deum*. They had lunch at the town's elementary school, after which the President spoke before a rally at the public plaza.

The President left the town at 3:15 p.m., reaching Legaspi wharf at 5:15 in the afternoon.

Another tumultuous crowd met the President and his party at the wharf in spite of a slight rain.

The Presidential party left early this evening on board the presidential train and is expected to arrive in Manila tomorrow morning.

**November 24.**—THE President returned this morning from a hurried trip to Albay and to Rapu-Rapu Island off Legaspi Gulf where he “regionalized Malacañang.”

At noontime the President motored to the Aristocrat restaurant in Quezon City where he addressed the members of the Inter-Island Deep-Sea Fishing Association. He was accompanied by the First Lady.

President Macapagal pledged anew today that his administration would continue to exert utmost efforts to provide food for the people.

In a 30, minute speech at the annual convention of the Inter-Island Deep-Sea Fishing Association, the President stressed, that he was aware that the primary duty and responsibility of his administration was to provide adequate food for the people.

He vowed to meet this problem squarely, emphasizing that “it is the intent of my administration to bring about a climate that will give hope and form, opportunity and realization, to these two vital items, so directly related and indispensable to the health and nutritional requirements of our people—a sufficient and abundant supply of rice and fish to insure the health and happiness of our people.”

The President noted that the Administration so far had successfully solved the rice problem, citing the availability of RCA rice at P.85 a ganta. But he said that fish, which is one of the two basic food needs of the people, is still a problem.

“It is your task,” he told the delegates, “and mine to solve this problem. We can, we must, we will solve this problem.”

President Macapagal then placed the support of his administration squarely behind efforts to promote the country’s fishing industry which, he stressed, plays a vital role in the country’s socio-economic program.

He added that constructive steps and measures are now being undertaken and implemented to prop up this industry, designed not only to attain self-sufficiency in fish, but to enable the country to export its surplus fishery products.

Among those who attended the convention were Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, Reps. Rufino Antonio and Primo Villasin, Public Works Undersecretary Rafael Contreras, Fisheries Director Antonio Roldan Jr., Filoil Chairman Filemon Rodriguez, and Filoil President Ramon V. del Rosario.

This afternoon the President administered the oaths of office to Abelardo Subido as acting commissioner of the civil service, and to former Governor of Zamboanga del Norte Serapio J. Datoc, as acting general manager of the National Marketing Corporation.

Subido replaced former Commissioner Amado del Rosario who recently was appointed judge of the Court of First Instance of Quezon province.

Datoc was designated manager of the corporation, vice Teofilo D. Reyes, Jr., who is leaving for Melbourne, Australia, tonight. Reyes is expected to be away at, least one month.

Before his appointment as CSC commissioner, Subido had been chairman of the Reparations Commission in Tokyo and of the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee.

Present during the oath-taking of Subido were Mrs. Trinidad Tarosa-Subido, wife of the CSC commissioner; Manager Reyes; Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.; PAGCOM Chairman Conrado N. Cajator, NAMARCO Directors Jose Calderon, Antonio Arambulo and Manuel Leelin; Herminigildo Atienza, Malacañang legal adviser; and Jacinto Leño, Jr., of the PAGCOM.

Mrs. Consolacion L. Datoc, wife of the new NAMARCO manager; their children Glenda, Gilda, Gloria, Caridad, Gay, and Gracia; and sisters Paz and Angeles Datoc, witnessed the oath-taking of the acting NAMARCO general manager.

The Administration braced itself for a showdown with labor leader Roberto Oca as Customs Commissioner Norberto Romualdez reported to President Macapagal this evening that the situation at the customs was “under control”.

Romualdez also assured the Chief Executive of the continuous flow of cargo from the piers which has become unusually heavy at this time of the year.

At a conference with the President held in Malacañang, Commissioner Romualdez reported that pilferage of cargo has been put to a halt since the customs personnel took over the arrastre service.

Romualdez informed the President that his actions will not in the least prejudice labor but will put a stop to what he called Oca’s “unscrupulous ways of exploiting laborers.”

The customs chief told the President that the customs men handling the arrastre are doing their best to resume normal handling of cargo. He reported that yesterday there was not even one case of pilferage.

Romualdez said he was willing to take in 71 out of 210 employees who were found to be civil service eligibles since most of them have expressed willingness to go back to work.

In reporting on the latest situation at the piers, Romualdez said that Oca’s behaviour in calling the successive strikes at the waterfront despite the lenient attitude of the Administration seems to be motivated by his desire to disrupt normal operations in the handling of incoming goods so that prices of commodities will soar during the forthcoming Christmas season.

Romualdez added that Oca should be the last man to call a strike since his demand for a P30 living allowance was granted when his union staged the first strike.

The customs commissioner declared that even Oca’s second demand was heeded by the government when it agreed to cancel the scheduled public bidding on the arrastre service but that despite this Oca still persisted in calling another strike in an effort to disrupt normal operations at the piers.

Romualdez said the strike must have been deliberately staged at this time of the year when there is a particularly heavy volume of incoming Christmas cargo.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58 (48), cdli-cdlviii.

## **Official Week in Review: November 25 — December 1, 1962**

**November 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal underscored today the role of aviation in the development and progress of the country and pledged the support of his administration for its growth and modernization.

Speaking at the opening of the air show this morning at the Manila International Airport domestic terminal, the President stressed that “aircrafts are tools designed to insure the continuance of life and the preservation of those elements that make life worth living.”

He also said that airplanes have unlimited potentials for eliminating tribal and provincial attitudes and for fostering goodwill among peoples. Today’s rites climaxed the 15th Philippine Aviation Week observance.

The President arrived at the MIA at 8:08 a.m. accompanied by the First Lady and their children, Gloria and Diosdado, Jr. They stayed up to a little past noon to witness the performance of the Blue Diamond aerobatic teams and other participants.

Upon his arrival at the airshow site, the President was accorded military honors by a battalion of the FEATI University air ROTC.

The First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon, formally opening the airshow. She was assisted by Mrs. Vicente Rivera, wife of the CAA administrator. CAA Director Rivera introduced the President.

Members of the Cabinet and the diplomatic corps, ranking officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and of the United States Army and Airforce, observers from other Asian countries, and thousands of aviation enthusiasts witnessed this year’s air show.

From the MIA, the President motored back to Malacañang. At 3p.m., the Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, left Malacañang for Poro Point Naval base, where they will stay overnight before proceeding to Abra. They are expected to return to Malacañang tomorrow evening.

**November 26.**—THIS evening the President accused opposition leaders who charged new Liberal affiliates as turncoats with “having no sense of history,” as he justified their joining cause with the majority for the welfare of the people.

Addressing a big crowd at the Bangued public plaza in Abra where he inducted some 1,000 Nacionalista leaders led by Gov. Jose Valera, the President said that the critics of new affiliates “think in terms of the past when there was only selfishness” and not the present movement for a better life for the people.

With regard to the new Liberals, the President described them as patriots whose only guiding spirit for affiliating is to serve their respective constituents and to make our democracy a real instrument for the welfare of the people.

The Chief Executive expressed confidence that “the peaceful and bloodless revolution” evidenced by past defections throughout the country only means complete control of the Senate come next year’s election.

Dismissing the charge that he is out to destroy the two-party system, the President said that the present political development is nothing but a sign of political growth for a real democracy that will serve the best interests of the people.

The first stage of such political development, he said, was his election to the presidency in spite of the tremendous odds. It showed that the power of the people’s will is stronger than economic power and influence, he said.

On the country's economy, the President said it was the consensus of both local and international economic and financial experts that because of the sound economic measures adopted by his administration, the Philippines will be as prosperous as Japan in ten years if the present economic growth of the country is maintained.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to Bangued yesterday afternoon. They spent the night at the Poro Point Naval base in San Fernando, La Union, from where they started out this morning for the capital town of Abra.

Affiliates, aside from Gov. Valera, were Vice-Gov. Carmelo Barbero, Board Members Timoteo Comines and Meno Tuazon, all 26 Nacionalista mayors and their councilors, barrio council members, barrio lieutenants and other ward leaders.

Present at the induction were Sens. Ferdinand Marcos and Eulogio Balao; Reps. Salipada Pendatun, Apolinario R. Apacible, Floro Crisologo. Lucas Paredes, and Fidel Santiago; and Govs. Melanio Singson of Isabela. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, and Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte.

The capital town of Bangued was in a festive mood as the townspeople turned out *en masse* to welcome the President on his arrival late this morning.

During the program the First Couple were presented with a resolution by the provincial board adopting them as son and daughter of Abra.

**November 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was briefed today by Labor Secretary and Acting Customs Commissioner Norberto Romualdez, Jr., and Labor Undersecretary Bernardino Abes on the situation in the strike-bound piers.

Romualdez reported that, notwithstanding the presence of hired goons at the waterfront, no untoward incident had occurred. He told the President that the goons were employed by Roberto Oca to threaten arrastre workers who had shown willingness to return to work. The majority of the striking pier workers, he said, had manifested a desire to return to work.

The President also conferred with Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez Jr., on the waterfront labor row.

Late this noon the Chief Executive inducted into office Dr. Flora V. Dabu as executive chairman of all boards of examiners. Dabu, who is chairman of the board of medical examiners, is also automatically a member of the council on medical education under Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces.

As chairman of all boards of examiners, Dabu will act as spokesman for the group.

Present at the oath-taking ceremony held in the President's study room were Rural Electrification Administrator Godofredo Pangan and the inductee's brother, Jose.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive presided over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

The President this day ordered the release of P20 million for the purchase of palay of small farmers during the month of December. He issued the order after Chairman-General Manager Jose Y. Feliciano of the Rice and Corn Administration reported on the rice situation at the Cabinet regular weekly meeting.

Feliciano strongly recommended the release of the palay purchase fund stressing that the inability of the RCA to purchase the farmers' palay during months of surplus may lead to collapse of prices which might be taken advantage of by traders.

In issuing the order for the release of the P20 million, the President also said he would ask the Congress to appropriate additional funds for the RCA in order to put it on a solid footing.



Feliciano reported that as of November 1, there was a surplus of 3,493,030 cavans of palay. He assured that the Administration will be able to insure an adequate supply for next year and to cope with emergency needs.

At the same time, Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon forecast that the government would have a surplus of 8,218,000 cavans of palay by June 30, 1963.

Feliciano revealed that the past administration lost P60 million in its rice operations. He added that, on the other hand, the present administration has succeeded in bringing down losses to only P1.5 million.

The President reiterated his congratulations to Feliciano for the good work that he had been doing and said that he would give a presidential award to Feliciano next month.

Feliciano told the Cabinet meeting that by next month, the main harvest shall be in full swing and that the farmers, especially the tenants, will sell their palay as soon as it is harvested not only to liquidate their debts but also to meet their needs during the Christmas season. He also said that by the end of next month, the rice business will be placed completely in the hands of the Filipinos because of the nationalization law that would require the buying and selling of palay by nationals beginning January 1, next year.

The Cabinet today authorized the Nationwide Agro-Industrial Development Corporation to import 1.1 million kilos of leaf tobacco for blending purposes.

The Cabinet action came after its committee for public bidding of tobacco headed by Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag reported that the corporation was the highest bidder among 17 firms which entered a public bidding on November 19, this year, for the export-import of tobacco.

The total quantity of the bid of the Nationwide Agro-Industrial Development Corporation was 9.9 million kilos for export.

Five other bidders were required to increase their bids to as much as that of the Nationwide Agro-Industrial Development Corporation.

The Liwag committee recommended that “in the event that none of the other bidders are willing to do this, the total amount of leaf tobacco to be imported for 1963 for blending purposes (3.3 million kilos) be awarded solely to the highest bidder, the Nationwide Agro-Industrial Development Corporation.”

The committee also recommended that “in the event that all or some are willing, the remaining two lots (2.2 million kilos) be apportioned equally among those who are willing.”

**November 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal held a series of conferences this morning with members of Congress on matters concerning their respective districts, including public works projects and local appointments.

Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun led those who met with the Chief Executive. They were Reps. Virgilio Afable of Zambales, Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte, Vicente B. de Lara of Misamis Oriental, Rasid Lucman of Lanao del Sur, Primo A. Villasin of Leyte del Norte, Rufino Antonio and Jovito Salonga of Rizal, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao del Norte, Felipe Abrigo and Eladio Balite of Samar, Luciano Josen of Mindoro Oriental, Benjamin Ligot and Tito Dupaya of Cagayan, Pedro Trono and Ricardo Ladrado of Iloilo, Lucas Paredes of Abra, Guillermo Sambo of Misamis Occidental, Angel Fernandez of Pangasinan, Manuel T. Cases of La Union, Felicisimo Ocampo and Eugenio Baltao of Nueva Ecija, Alfredo Lamen of Mountain Province, Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur, Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Venancio Ziga of Albay, Francisco Lecaroz of Marinduque, Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur, Tobias Fornier of Antique, Jose Alberto of Catanduanes, and Eladio Caliwara of Quezon.

Earlier this morning the President received members of the board of governors of the Philippine National Red Cross headed by Rep. Ramon Bagatsing, who submitted a request for a 2,000-square meter lot in the port area where a proposed building of the blood bank may be constructed.

The board members were former Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison, Lanao del Norte Governor Ali Dimaporo, Gabriela Walstrom, Dr. Generoso Caridad, former Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, and Loreto Sulit.

Other callers this morning were Govs. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte, Delfin Lilio of Candelaria, Quezon, and Quezon City Vice-Mayor Vicente Novales.

President Macapagal reassured today that his administration is a friend of labor and that the government will extend all possible assistance to remove factors that would impede the exercise of its legal rights.

The President gave the reassurance during a conference with labor leaders in Malacañang this afternoon.

He expressed a desire to have periodic meetings with representatives of labor in order to acquaint himself with their problems and to find out how the government could be of help to them.

The labor leaders in turn informed the President that the projected nationwide strike which was supposed to have been staged in sympathy with the pier strikers did not necessarily mean they were in accord with the views of Roberto S. Oca, president of the Philippine Transport and General Workers Organization (PTGWO). They said they simply objected to the use of the Armed Forces in the controversy.

The labor leaders also promised the President that with the proper atmosphere being brought about by the Administration, they will take steps to purge unscrupulous leaders from their ranks.

Present at the conference were Ben Navarro of PAFLU, Ignacio Lacsina and Felixberto Olalia of the Katipunan ng Manggagawang Pilipino, Francisco Nora and Henry Santos of the Philippine Communication and Workers Federation, Antonio Policarpio of the National Labor Union, and Antonio Zumel, Martin Espina, and Jose Santos of the DMHM Employees Union.

The President dashed all hopes of government employees of getting Christmas bonuses this year, saying the government did not have enough funds for the purpose.

At his weekly press-conference the President appealed to government workers not to be disheartened and to cooperate with the Administration fully.

Considering that the new administration was only starting, the employees should understand that bonuses were out of the question, the President said.

However, he held out the hope that there might be bonuses in the future. If the Administration succeeds in its economic development program, he said, bonuses might be possible.

The President justified today the government raids on the office of the mother union of dockhands locked out from the piers recently as a part of the Administration's moral regeneration campaign in the field of labor.

He told his weekly press conference that he was convinced that if the Administration succeeded in this phase of the campaign, unionism would prosper and labor would get more rights and privileges.

At the same time the Chief Executive declined to comment on the view that government bowed to the waterfront workers when it signed a provisional agreement with the union allowing 3,000 dockhands to return to work under conditions that prevailed before the lockout.

He said whether the government or the laborers scored a victory was “of no moment to me.” He said what was important was that the welfare of both the workers and the public was protected.

During the press conference, the President also:

1. Said the government had not “relaxed” in taking the necessary steps in support of its claim on North Borneo;
2. Corrected his spokesman who had claimed that the Cabinet made the decision to allow the Nationwide Agro-Industrial Development Corporation to import Virginia leaf tobacco; and
3. Announced that the National Bureau of Investigation was “about finished” with its analysis of the Stonehill payroll for newspapermen.

In justifying the raids on the offices of the Philippine Transport and General Workers union and on the office of one of its directors in Sta. Cruz, the President said that by eliminating “unscrupulous” labor leaders, he hoped to achieve the basic conditions under which leaders could enjoy equal opportunity for advancement.

He reiterated his charge that Roberto Oca, P.T.G.W.O. president who had threatened a nationwide sympathy strike if the government did not give in to the dockhands’ demands, was an “unscrupulous” labor leader who was sacrificing the interests of his men for his own.

He declined to say whether he would go after other “unscrupulous” labor leaders. He said he hoped that Oca, as an example in the field of labor, would be enough.

The President denied that he had ordered the raids. He was believed to have been nettled by Oca, but he said, “I don’t order such things.” However, he said he was informed of the raids.

The raids, he said, were independent of the agreement reached the other night between the government and the strikers. The raids had reference only to Oca, particularly his challenge to the government to prosecute him, the President said.

“The raids were an extension of the reform drive of the Administration in the ranks of labor,” the President said. “Oca challenged the government to prosecute him and since offices of the government had evidence that he (Oca) violated laws and regulations to exploit his laborers for his own good, the government acted as it did,” he said.

Asked if the raids would not have been made if Oca had not challenged the government to prosecute him, the President said he would not know.

“I can surmise, however, on the basis of information given me, that it was only a matter of time before Oca was placed in the toils of the law,” the President said. He admitted that the challenge precipitated the raids.

The President signed today a proclamation declaring Thursday, November 29, as Home Extension Day.

The proclamation states that the day is being dedicated “in order to appreciate more fully and fulfill the vital influence and potentialities of the Filipino home and to emphasize the need of developing household arts and industries in such a manner as to strengthen their material sufficiency.”

President Macapagal ordered today the payment of the last installment in the amount of P227,000 for the purchase of the Fabie Estate in Paco, Manila.

The directive was issued by the Chief Executive in his desire to effect an early settlement of the government's obligation to the owners of the estate so that it could be subdivided and distributed to the tenants in line with the Administration's program of giving land to the landless.

The estate was acquired by the government on August 17, 1955, pursuant to Republic Act No. 1162.

Payment for the last installment is chargeable against the P1,500,000 worth of negotiable land certificates allocated to the Land Tenure Administration.

The first five installments had been paid by the previous administration.

**November 29.**—THIS morning the President conferred separately with Commissioner Virgilio Gaston of the National Integration Commission, DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, and General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat on the operation of their respective offices.

The President also received Auditor General Pedro Gimenez and a delegation from Lanao del Norte led by Gov. Ali Dimaporo.

Later this morning the President witnessed the induction by Sen. Ferdinand Marcos, president of the Liberal Party, of five Nacionalista mayors from Bohol, home province of former President Garcia.

The new LP converts are Mayors Paulino B. Inting of Loay, Demetrio B. Salon of Albuquerque, Lucas J. Asotique of Catigbian, Cayetano Decasa of Bilar, and Fidel Ellorimo of Sikatuna.

Present at the induction ceremony held at Malacañang's music room were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Gov. Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte, and Quezon ex-Gov. Gregorio Santayana.

The Chief Executive took time out from the preparation of his radio-TV speech this afternoon to induct the following three ranking officials of the Reparations Commission:

Retired General Pelagio Cruz, as chief of the reparations mission in Tokyo, Reparations Commissioner Benedicto Padilla as chairman of the commission, and Malacañang Legal Assistant Hermenigildo Atienza as reparations commissioner.

The President cancelled some of his appointments in order to work on his speech which he entitled "President Macapagal Speaks to the People." President Macapagal delivered this evening his 11th radio-television chat to the nation from the state dining room in Malacañang. The message was simulcast "live" by five television pool networks and ten Manila radio stations, including two short-wave stations which fed provincial stations.

President Macapagal today designated Bernardino Abes as acting secretary of Labor and PHHC Chairman-General Manager Esmeraldo Eco as acting undersecretary of labor.

The President's move was prompted by a formal request from Labor Secretary Norberto Romualdez, concurrently acting commissioner of customs, for an indefinite leave of absence from his post in the labor department.

Romualdez said he wanted to go on leave so that he may be able to devote his full time to his duties in the Bureau of Customs, especially in view of the current trouble in the piers.

President Macapagal ordered today a revamp of the Philippine Veterans Administration.

The Chief Executive issued order following numerous complaints from PVA pensioners and beneficiaries against alleged inefficiency, bungling and “red tape” in that office.

Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, who had submitted to the Chief Executive a report on his observations of conditions existing in that office, was asked by the President to cause the immediate revamp.

The President said that the defects in the PVA could be traced only to the lack of interest and adequate supervision on the part of the ranking officials of the agency toward their given mission.

**November 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal said today he is satisfied with the performance of Dr. Andres Castillo as governor of the Central Bank and as one of his foremost financial and economic advisers.

The President made the statement in response to questions of newsmen in an informal interview here this noon.

The ouster of Castillo from the Central Bank was demanded yesterday by Sen. Manuel P. Manahan, who said that the bank’s tight credit policy imperils the President’s socio-economic program.

Castillo was likewise assailed in Bacolod City by Jose C. Montilla, president of the Philippine Federation of Producers and Exporters, because of “lapses in monetary and credit policies.”

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal arrived in Butuan this morning on board a *Fokker Friendship* plane to induct into the Loyal Party Nacionalista stalwarts of Agusan led by Gov. Democrito Plaza and to inaugurate Butuan City’s first concrete road.

Others who joined the LP bandwagon were ex-Govs. Felixberto Dagani and Apolonio Curato; ex-Provincial Board Member Silvestre Osin; Mayors Basilisa Kittilstevdt of Cabadbaran, Jose Luyahan of Tubay. Paquito Fuentes of San Francisco. Sergio Mullaneda of Bayugan, and Ricardo Morada of Buenavista; and some 1,000 provincial, city, municipal, and barrio leaders.

In a rally held at the premises of the new market in Butuan City, the President appealed for popular support because, he said, lack of LP control of the Senate had virtually blocked administration measures designed to improve the lot of the masses.

He said that the present Senate leadership is in the hands of the rich and the powerful who are determined to continue enjoying privileges for their own well-being.

The President thanked Governor Plaza and the others who joined cause with his administration, saying that with their defection his campaign for support is fast becoming nationwide.

Mayor Salvador Calo of Butuan City, who delivered the welcome address, thanked the President for the aid extended to Agusan during the recent floods.

Later this morning the President administered the oath to Pedro Navarro as district judge for Naga City and Camarines Sur.

The President arrived at the Bancasi airport in Butuan City at 10: 30 o’clock this morning and was met by large delegations from Agusan and nearby provinces headed by their respective officials.

After acknowledging the greetings of his welcomers, the President and the First Lady led a long motorcade to St. Joseph’s church where a *Te Deum* was sung their honor. The rally followed the mass.

In the afternoon Mrs. Macapagal cut the ceremonial ribbon inaugurating Butuan City's first concrete road, with the President planting an ornamental tree on an island of the new concrete road.

The President is scheduled to fly to Cotabato tomorrow morning after breakfast at the residence of Gov. Plaza.

**December 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned late this afternoon from a two-day visit of Agusan and Cotabato, erstwhile Nacionalista bastions, which “fell” into the Liberal camp.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President landed at the Manila domestic airport aboard a chartered Philippine Air Lines *Fokker Friendship* plane.

The Chief Executive took the PAL plane from Iligan City as the Fokker plane could not land and take off a Cotabato. The President boarded a Philippine Air Force plane from Cotabato to Iligan City where he took the chartered PAL aircraft.

Malacañang said the President chartered a PAL plane, for his presidential plane is still in Amsterdam undergoing periodic check-up.

Earlier this morning the President had breakfast with new Liberal Gov. Democrito O. Plaza in Butuan City, where the Chief Executive and the First Lady spent the night.

After his breakfast with the new Liberal Party chairman of Agusan province, the President motored to the Bancasi airport where he boarded a DC-3 aircraft for Cotabato.

He was met by a large crowd at the Cotabato airport, headed by then Nacionalista Gov. Udtog Malalam.

From the Cotabato airport, the President and the First Lady motored direct to the city cathedral where they attended a *Te Deum*.

From the church, the President and the First Lady proceeded to the City Hall where President Macapagal inducted Gov. Matalam, Vice-Gov. Sergio Morales, the three provincial board members, and 30 out of 32 Nacionalista mayors of the province.

President and Mrs. Macapagal were guests at a luncheon at the Rio Vista Hotel.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1962). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 58(49), cdlxi-cdlxvii.

**President's Month in Review: December 1-22, 1962**

## President's Week in Review: December 23-29, 1962

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**December 23.**—THE First Family arrived in Baguio City at noon today for their Christmas respite. They will leave the Guest House for the Mt. Data resort tomorrow to spend Christmas Eve there.

Present Macapagal, accompanied by the First Lady and the three children, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr., left Malacañang early this morning and came up to Baguio by car.

The President stopped for a while at the Zigsag Road to greet people on the roadside.

Shortly after their arrival at the Guest House, the President and the First Lady heard mass at St. Joseph Church.

This evening the President played hosts to newsmen and friends at dinner at Camp John Hay.

**December 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had breakfast with Malacañang newsmen at the Guest House in Baguio City this morning before he motored with his family to Mt. Data resort for a Christmas Eve retreat.

President Macapagal discussed the opinion of Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag holding the P2 wage of the Emergency Employment Administration as illegal. He pounded the breakfast table several times with his fists as he blamed former Secretary Jose W. Diokno for what have been described by his critics as his rebuffs from the Supreme Court.

However, he explained that he was not hitting Diokno but “am merely defending myself from charges that I am always rebuffed by the Supreme Court.”

The President was accompanied to Mt. Data by the First Lady, the three Macapagal children, and Col. Victor Dizon, aide de camp.

The First Lady said their midnight snack will consist of ham, fried chicken, and salad. She also distributed 200 gifts bags to indigent families living in the vicinity of the mountain resort.

The Macapagals are scheduled to motor down to Baguio City tomorrow noon.

**December 25.**—CHRISTMAS Eve found President Macapagal and his family in a resthouse on Mt. Data, a model barrio some 100 kilometers from Baguio City.

Cheers greeted the First Family as men and women of the Kankanae tribe with their children filed past the President and the First Lady and their children while they happily distributed *bayongs* containing gifts worth P12 to P15.

The President and his family motored from Baguio to Mt. Data at 8:30 o'clock yesterday morning arriving at the resthouse at 12:20 p.m.

They heard midnight mass at the still incomplete wooden St. Joseph church near the resthouse.

After mass the First Family partook of a *noche buena* consisting of coffee, biscuits, salad, sandwiches, and peanuts.

Earlier last night, the First Couple received Rep. Luis Hora and Rep Alfredo Lamen Bauko Mayor Alipio Alijo and a delegation of the barrios apple and citrus growers association headed by Bauko Judge Cipriano Cardenas. The delegation called on the First Family to extend the seasons greeting to them and present them with a gift of two boxes of locally-grown oranges.



The President and his family appeared to have enjoyed immensely brief stay in the barrio. In a year of demanding public life, this was a opportunity for them of being by themselves. Every moment they were together was marked by hearty laughter and exchange of jokes, accentuated by a pervading quiet and a balmy and invigorating December air.

The First Couple left Mt. Data at past noon, arriving at the Mansion House at 4:45 p.m.

Tomorrow they will distribute more *bayong* gifts to Baguio indigent children.

They are scheduled to motor back to Manila on Thursday, December 27.

**December 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal stayed in the Guest House the whole day today for a much needed rest in preparation for another three-day “regionalizing” tour in Eastern Visayas starting tomorrow night.

The President received callers leisurely, including Reps. Luis Hora and Alfredo Lamen, Vice-Mayor Norberto de Guzman, Fiscal Sixto Domonlan ex-Rep. Dennis Molintas, Pampanga Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno and his wife, Rep. Juanita Nepomuceno, and newsmen.

The President discussed with his callers ways and means of boosting tourist attractions in Mountain Province, including the Banawe rice terraces for the improvement of which he promised to release P500,000.

The First Lady, on the other hand, continued to spread Christmas cheer by presenting packages to some 100 indigent families at Burnham Park.

The First Lady was assisted by her daughter Gloria: her mother Mrs. Irenia de la Cruz Vda. de Macaraeg; and Mesdaines Fe Villanueva, Rebecca de Guzman, and Helen Dominguez of the local Social Welfare Administration Office.

Also with the First Lady at this morning’s distribution of gifts were Congressmen Hora, Lamen, and Pablo Sanidad of Ilocos Sur; Vice-Mayor De Guzman; and Councilors Bert Florosca, Raul Yaranon, and Jose Florendo.

President Macapagal said this evening he would confer with Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag shortly, presumably to tell the Administration’s stand on the controversy over the low wage scale of the Emergency Employment Administration.

The announcement was made to newsmen at a conference at the Guest House during which the President explained the apparent confusion in the Administration over what has been called an opinion of the secretary of justice on the E.E.A. wage scale.

The President stressed that what Secretary Liwag had submitted to him was but a “memorandum,” not an opinion. He also maintained that Liwag, in his memorandum, had informed him that there were grounds to support the legality and morality of the P2-wage for E.E.A. workers.

During the conference, the President also:

1. Maintained that E.E.A. should not be abolished;
2. Appealed for less emphasis on “legal niceties” and more concern over problems of the nation; and
3. Denied there was an impending revamp of his Cabinet, saying.

“I have an excellent Cabinet.”

The President did not say when he would confer with Liwag. Since he is scheduled to leave immediately for the Visayas upon his return to Manila tomorrow evening, the meeting would most probably be held when he comes back to Manila from the Visayas on December 30.

He said he had not yet finished studying the Liwag memorandum. He also said he was not aware that Liwag had already issued an opinion on the E.E.A. wage scale after the memorandum.

The President blamed the press for the apparent confusion over the so-called memorandum. He claimed that the press had misinterpreted the memorandum.

He said that when the memorandum was "leaked" to the press, the newspapers, not having all the facts, misinterpreted not only its nature but also its contents.

The memorandum was "leaked" to the newspaper in Manila last Sunday.

The newspapers called it an opinion of the secretary of justice, and said it had expressed the view that the P2-wage for the E.E.A. laborers could not be legally or morally justified.

**December 27.**—President accompanied by the First Lady, left the Pines City at 9 o'clock this morning, after staying in Baguio for five days, including an overnight stay at the Mt. Data resort in Bontoc, Mt. Province.

The President spent some time in San Fernando, Pampanga and later in Guagua and Lubao towns to greet his relatives in connection with the Christmas season.

The President instructed acting Emergency Employment Administrator Eleuterio Adevosio to fix EEA wages in clear conformity with the minimum wage law.

He issued the directive in a conference in Guagua with Adevosio, Justice Secretary Juan Liwag, Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes, and Sen. Estanislao Fernandez.

The President said he issued the instructions "in view of the questions raised as to the legality of the proposed P2 EEA daily wage."

Immediately upon receipt of the President's instructions, Adevosio announced the adoption of a plan he had ordered implemented as early as two "weeks ago. The plan calls for a two-shift system of employment "in all EEA public works projects all over the country."

Adevosio said that even before the controversy broke out, he had instructed EEA field officers to "start implementing a system of employment whereby voluntary emergency workers would be employed in two shifts of four hours each, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, for which they will be paid P2 per shift."

Immediately upon his return to Malacañang, the President conferred successively with Malacañang Legal Adviser Juan Cancio and Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño.

The President signed today a proclamation declaring January 21 of every year as Civil Liberties Day.

In his proclamation the Chief Executive said that "a sound and vigorous democracy demands that the people's attention be drawn constantly to the preservation of civil liberties."

Significantly, January 21 marks the anniversary of the promulgation of the Malolos Constitution, an historic document embodying the people's original thoughts on civil liberties.

In the evening the President motored to Pier 5 where he, accompanied by Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, boarded the *RPS Rajah Soliman*, destroyer of the Philippine Navy, for Burias Island.

President Macapagal signed today an executive order converting the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission into a National Heroes Commission with increased membership, duties, and functions.

The President ordered the amendment in recognition of the necessity of observing the centenary and anniversary of national heroes and the perpetuation of their lives and teachings.

The committee, which shall be chairmanned by the secretary of education, will carry out the remaining activities of the old commission. It will have as members the directors of the National Museum and the Public Libraries, the president of the Philippine Historical Association, and other persons the Chief Executive may designate from time to time.

**December 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal told the townspeople of San Pascual today that no town or barrio should be too small to merit the attention of the Head of State.

This tiny municipality located at the northern tip of Burias island received a pleasant surprise this morning when the *Rajah Soliman* bearing the Chief Executive and his party anchored alongside the village wharf.

The President visited Burias in fulfillment of an election promise that he would go once in a while in line with his policy of regionalizing Malacañang. With him was the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal.

Speaking before the townsfolk at the local plaza the President said that it has been his practice to visit remote or isolated places so that the needs of their inhabitants may be known to him and measures may be adopted to protect or promote their welfare.

The villagers who had heard of the President's scheduled arrival turned out en masse at the wharf in their Sunday's best to give him a royal welcome

A gaily-decorated carabao-drawn sled was made available at the wharf for the First Couple's use in going to the town proper. San Pascual does not have a single motor vehicle. The First Couple decided, however, to walk with the people, and they forthwith proceeded to town amidst the cheers of the people.

Following a *Te. Deum* said in their honor at the local church, the President proceeded to the plaza nearby, where he addressed the townspeople.

The First Lady, in the meantime, distributed Christmas gifts to several island families at the health center.

Mayor Pedro Nazareno took occasion to thank the President for "the interest he has shown to promote the welfare of the inhabitants of our island."

After his plaza speech the President administered the oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party to Mayor Nazareno, Vice-Mayor Manuel Evangelista, and Councilors Pedro Aguilar, Felix Patropes, Gregorio Vilar, Zosimo Osayan, and Pastor Rojas.

From the plaza, the Chief Executive walked up to the town hall situated at the slope of a hill, where he conferred with local officials.

After lunch at the residence of Patrocineo de la Torre, the President and his party boarded the *Rajah Soliman* for Tacloban City, where he will inaugurate the newly-constructed Leyte Provincial Hospital.

**December 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal assured today that his administration will promote the rapid development of each province “without regard to the party affiliation of its officials.” He gave the assurance in speeches delivered in Tacloban City this morning.

The President expressed gratification over the enthusiastic welcome accorded him and Mrs. Macapagal by the people of Leyte headed by Nacionalista Gov. Ildefonso Cinco and Tacloban Mayor Artemio Mate. He said that the national government is ready to extend whatever assistance it can give the Leyte officials even if they belong to the opposite camp.

The President and the First Lady arrived in Tacloban about 10 a.m., after a motor trip from Babatñgon, where they disembarked from the *RPS Rajah Soliman*. They proceeded to Sto. Niño church, where a *Te Deum* was sung.

From the church, the President crossed over the nearby Plaza 30 de Diciembre to acknowledge raffles and flourishes offered by an honor guard made up of local Armed Forces units.

Following the military honors which included a 21-gun salute, the Chief Executive mounted the speaker’s platform and addressed his welcomers who had converged on the spacious plaza. Then the President witnessed the inauguration of the out-patient building of the Leyte Provincial Hospital where the First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon

Present at the inaugural rites were Rep. Primo Villasin, Acting Customs Commissioner Norberto Romualdez, Jr., and local officials

The President and the First Lady then motored to the regional center of the Social Welfare Administration where they distributed gift bass to some 300 indigent families.

Following luncheon at the St. Paul’s gymnasium, the President repaired to the local Republic Theater and conferred with provincial, city, and municipal officials on various problems of their localities.

The President also administered oaths of affiliation with the Liberal Party to 16 Nacionalista leaders headed by Mayor Felicísimo Abuyador of Mahaplag and Councilor Constantino Santo of Dulag.

President and Mrs. Macapagal landed at Babatñgon about 9 a.m. from the *RPS Rajah Soliman*. A warm welcome, complete with fireworks and brass bands, awaited them at the wharf. They reached Tacloban City after an hour’s ride along a 31-kilometer stretch of rough, dusty roads.

The President and the First Lady motored back to Babatñgon about 3 p.m. to board the *RPS Rajah Soliman* for the return trip to Manila.

President Macapagal today ordered immediate action on the case of a 14-year old girl reported to have been abused by the chief of police of Trento in Bunawan, Agusan.

Evidently angered by a report on the case from the father of the victim, the President directed Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevos to “bring the alleged abuser to justice immediately.”

The girl’s father, Jose Bacalto of Sta. Josefa, Agusan, had requested Malacañang action on the case. He complained that the matter had been reported to the Bunawan mayor and the local police authorities but that no action had been taken thus far.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: December 30, 1962 - January 5, 1963

### Official Week in Review

**December 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned this morning from a two-day visit to Burias and Tacloban City. Accompanied by the First Lady, the Chief Executive arrived in Malacañang by car at 10:30 a.m. from Batangas, Batangas.

The *RPS Rajah Soliman* docked at the Santa Clara wharf in Batangas at 8:30 o'clock this morning after an 18-hour trip from Tacloban City.

The President and the First Lady left Manila Friday evening for the South, passing by San Pascual on Burias Island, where he inquired into the needs of the inhabitants.

From Burias, the President proceeded to Leyte where he inaugurated the Leyte Provincial Hospital annex. He also inducted into the Liberal Party a number of top Nacionalista Party leaders.

Following his return to Malacañang, the President took a brief rest. Later, he went over pending state papers.

In the evening the President, the First Lady, and their children heard mass at the Malacañang chapel.

Malacañang this evening announced the award of Presidential citations of merit to the following:

- (1) Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., for overall exemplary performance as a Cabinet member;
- (2) RCA administrator Jose Y. Feliciano, for solving the rice problem;
- (3) DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, for a sustained record of integrity and honesty in the public service;
- (4) Apolonio Rivera, director of the Bureau of Supply Coordination, Department of General Services, for exemplary integrity and honesty in the subordinate level of the government service; and
- (5) Patrocinio Tingson, 49, conductor of the Philippine Railway Co. in Iloilo, for an exemplary act of honesty by returning to the owner a traveling bag containing P5,324.45, as well as clothes and personal effects.

**December 31.**—THE Chief Executive today hailed the Philippines' textile industry for producing a sturdy and attractive fabric at a price within the reach of the people.

The President said that the production of the low-cost fabric named *pag-asa* is an indication that a better life for our masses is at the horizon." He made the statement this morning during the formal launching of the Administration's clothes-for-the-mass project, at the Malacañang social hall.

The President said that the swift realization of the low-cost utilitarianism cloth was "far beyond expectations," and added that he would even venture to say it was "a phenomenal achievement."

The President recalled how, soon after he assumed office, he met with the textile millers and impressed upon them the necessity of manufacturing clothing material priced within the reach of the masses.

"It is gratifying to note that they understood the importance of the project which I proposed," he said.

Present during the ceremony were First Lady, members of the Cabinet, business leaders, business and society editors of metropolitan dailies, members of civic organizations, and others.

Afterward, the President, together with the First Lady and their children, viewed a display of the fabric at the Malacañang social hall.

The three Macapagal children, Arthur, Gloria, and Diosadado, Jr., sported newly-sewn shirts or dress made of *pag-asa* cloth, attracting the attention of the guests.

The entire program was carried on a nationwide hook-up by almost all radio and television stations.

President Macapagal honored five men “for outstanding performance” in various fields of endeavor. He presented presidential citations of merit to four government officials and one private citizen, a train conductor from Iloilo province, as announced last night.

The citations were formally presented by the President in simple ceremonies at Malacañang.

The citations were read by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño in the presence of other members of the Cabinet and of Congress, civic leaders, and members of the families of the honorees.

Tingson, the Iloilo train conductor who found and returned to the rightful owner a bag containing P5,324.45, as well as clothes and personal effects, was unable to attend the ceremony owing to transpiration recommendation of a committee headed by the President himself.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., said that the committee had difficult time selecting this year’s awardees “in view of the exemplary performance of many New Era officials.”

This evening president Macapagal went on a nation-wide radio-television-hook-up to report on the achievements of his 12-month-old administration.

He delivered his last radio-TV chat at the Malacañang ceremonial hall, where earlier he also addressed the nation to launch a “clothes-for-the-masses” project.

**January 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal this morning expressed the hope that the advancement of the science may be utilized for insuring prosperity rather than the extinction of mankind.

The Chief Executive made the statement during the traditional New Year’s toast held at the State dining room in Malacañang.

The President said, “We are fortunate that despite the fact that some groups, at one time or another, have threatened the peace of the world and almost brought it to the brink of a holocaust, we now enjoy a peaceful existence with the rest of the world.”

“Despite the complexity of global problems, our world leaders somehow were able to pull mankind out of the brink of another war,” he added.

Msgr. Salvatore Siino, dean of the diplomatic corps, voiced the New Year sentiments of the members, saying, “Our wishes are simple and sincere—that Your Excellency and your illustrious family may enjoy good health, peace, and happiness during this year and that Your Excellency’s work and efforts for the welfare of the Filipino people may be crowned by abundant success.

President during the traditional ceremony, as aide from Msgr. Siino, were Vice-President and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez, Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon, U.S. Ambassador William Stevenson, members of the Cabinet, members of Congress, other members of the diplomatic corps, and other ranking officials of the government.

Thousands of people from all walks of life flocked to Malacañang this afternoon to wish President and Mrs. Macapagal a "Happy New Year."

It was the traditional New Year's day reception at the Palace.

For two hours, men, women, and children had a free run of Malacañang, sitting on satin-covered sofas, admiring the huge chandeliers and moving around the marble-floored Social Hall, scene of many a flitting state function in the past.

The President and the First Lady were kept busy on the reception line shaking hands with visitors who came in their holiday attire from various parts of Manila and nearby provinces.

Many came in slippers and wooden clogs. Some even came barefooted.

The President and the First Lady were deeply touched when two aged women arrived with a basket containing eggs and *patis* which, they said, they were presenting to the First Couple.

The gift bearers were Teodora de la Cruz, 86, and Simeona Malaca, 70, both from barrio San Roque, Navotas, Rizal.

The First Lady gave visiting children Japanese apples donated by Crown Prince Akihito and Crown Princess Michiko.

Another visitor was a 94-year old man, Vicente Balazar from Manila, who said he had come to "salute the President for the many good things he is doing for the people."

The afternoon reception, which was set aside specially for the general public, had to be extended up to 6 p.m. in order to accommodate latecomers.

This evening the President signed several major appointments to the judiciary and the Armed Forces.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., announced the following presidential appointments:

1. City Fiscal Hermogenes Concepcion, Jr., of Manila as justice of the court of appeals, filling the seat vacated by retired Justice Natividad Almada-Lopez;
2. First Assistant Fiscal of Manila Eulogio Serrano as city fiscal of Manila;
3. Rizal Provincial Fiscal Nicanor Nicolas as judge of the Court of First Instance of Ilocos Sur;
4. Benjamin Aquino, prominent Bulacan practicing lawyer, as provincial fiscal of Rizal;
5. Captain Juan Magluyan as commodore of the Philippine Navy;
6. Gen. Dominador Garcia as chief of the Philippine Constabulary, vice Gen. Nicanor Garcia;
7. Gen. Ricardo Papa as commanding general of the Philippine Army, vice Gen. Dominador Garcia; and
8. Gen. Nicanor Garcia, as deputy chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, vice Gen. Papa.

The President signed the appointments after conferring in Malacañang with Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag.

Secretary Paruñgao said other major appointments will be announced shortly. He added that the President will meet with his Cabinet at 4 p.m. tomorrow.

The President was at work on state papers soon after completing the traditional reception for New Year's Day callers at Malacañang. He had extended for 30 minutes, up to 6 p.m., the period within which he and the First Lady were to receive New Year's Day callers.

**January 2.**—THIS morning the President met with some 20 members of the House of Representatives led by Speaker Cornelio Villareal and Speaker Protempore Salidapa K. Pendatun, who took up with him matters affecting their districts.

He also received British Ambassador John A. Pilcher, Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, and EEA Deputy Administrator Eleuterio Adevosio.

Before presiding over his first press conference for the year, the President inducted Juan Magluyan as commodore of the Philippine Navy.

Magluyan's oath taking was witnessed by several Army and defense officials headed by National Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.; Lt. Gen. Alfredo M. Santos, chief of staff of the Armed Forces; and Brig. Gen. Ricardo Papa, new commanding general of the Philippine Army.

The President started his press conference at exactly 4 o'clock with many seats empty. Most newsmen came late.

After an hour-long meeting with the press, the President played Santa Clause to the newsmen by giving each go them autographed books. The books were *Diosdado Macapagal—Triumph over Poverty*, by Sol H. Gwekoh, and *New Hope for the Common Man*, a compilation of the President's speeches by Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr.

After his press conference the President presided over his first meeting of the year with the members of his Cabinet. The President had dinner with members of his Cabinet after their meeting, which ended late in the evening.

President Macapagal today extended up to December 31, 1963, the prohibitions on the slaughter of carabaos.

He issued an executive order extending the ban imposed by Executive Order No. 3, which was issued on January 12, 1962, to carry out effectively the provisions of Republic Act No. 11 and to conserve the country's work animals for agricultural purposes.

Under the new order No. 29, permits to slaughter carabaos may be issued by provincial Constabulary commanders, subject to the following conditions:

1. That the carabao is 15 years old or over;
2. That the carabao is unfit for work;
3. That the carabao has been inspected by the provincial veterinarian and the provincial commander or their authorized representatives; and

That the provincial veterinarian and the provincial commander have made a joint certification to the effect that the carabao is 15 years old or over and is unfit for work.

**January 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal declared today that the nation is "on the threshold to progress," and appealed earnestly for support of the Administration's efforts to provide the people with a better life. He specially singled out



the business community in his plea for support, "because you are as much leaders of the people" as those in the Administration.

The President pledged the government's full support to business in the way of technical and administrative services, tax, tariff, and other incentive policies as well as financing facilities.

The President was guest speaker before the Manila Rotary Club at its first regular luncheon meeting of the year, held at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel.

The President summed up the main accomplishments of the Administration during the past year as follows:

"First, we gave back the government its self-respect;

"Second, we gave back the businessman his freedom;

"Third, we gave the common man the substantial beginnings of a better life; and

"Fourth, we gave the country a stable base and a solid framework for its future growth."

He dwelt lengthily on how the government has given back the businessmen his freedom, specially mentioning "freedom from controls and freedom from instability," both of which he said are necessary for the progress of private business.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady was fetched from Malacañang by Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, who is a Rotarian.

Before delivering his speech, the Chief Executive was conferred an honorary membership by Rotary President Teodoro Evangelista "for meritorious service to the Rotary's ideal of service above self." Evangelista introduced the President.

The President told a visiting panel of experts on rural electrification that the Philippines is about ready to implement a vigorous rural electrification program. He made the statement this afternoon during a conference with a three-man panel of experts on rural electrification from the Economic Commission for Asia and Far East (ECAFE) who are here on a 16-day survey of the country.

The Chief Executive told them that their coming here during this crucial period of programming of the Administration's electrification project is "most welcome."

The panel, headed by M. Hayath of India, with R. Bjorkman of Sweden and V.R. Raghavan also of India, arrived yesterday evening in the course of a survey of the 14 ECAFE member countries, to find out what possible technical assistance they could offer.

While here they will visit important power plants and connected installations both in Luzon and Mindanao. They will also visit the rural areas to obtain first-hand information on prevailing conditions in these areas in relation to the maximum utilization of electro power.

After this visit, they will submit their recommendations to their headquarters in Bangkok which will in turn send here experts to assist the government in the electrification program.

The President, who considers the rural electrification his "pet project," instructed Administrator Godofredo Pañgan of the rural Electrification Administration to "take full advantage of the knowledge of the experts" to guide him in the Administration's electrification projects.

The panel of experts sees accompanied to Malacañang by Undersecretary of Commerce Medina Lacson de Leon, Benjamin Carbonel of the National Power Corporation, Cesar Reyes of the National Economic Council, and Ruperto Jugueta of the local ECAFE office.

This afternoon the President directed Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia to speed up work on top-priority public works projects.

The President particularly mentioned concrete or semi-concrete highways along the following: (1) Marawi City to Iligan City; (2) Bagabag to Banawe in Mountain Province; and (3) Manila South Road to Bicol.

The cost of undertaking the specified projects totals P42.6 million.

**January 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal inducted today Brig. Gen. Dominador Garcia who was appointed recently as deputy chief of staff of the Armed Forces.

The Chief Executive also swore in (1) PIA Deputy Director Armand Fabella as member of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank; (2) Manuel Leelin as member of the board of directors of the National Development Company; (3) Carlos S. Tan as board member of the Emergency Employment Administration; and (4) Arsenio Lugay and Pedro Balingit as members of the board of the National Marketing Corporation.

Present at the induction ceremonies were the First Lady, immediate members of the families of the inductees, and officials of their respective offices.

The President also met with Liberal Senate leaders and with members of the LP executive committee on proposed legislation in the coming session of Congress.

First to confer with the Chief Executive were Sens. Ferdinand Marcos, Camilio Osias, Manuel P. Manahan, Estanislao Fernandez, and Gaudencio Antonio.

The LP executive committee members who met with him at luncheon were Sens. Camilio Osias, Maria Kalaw Katigbak, Manuel P. Manahan, Ferdinand Marcos, Estanislao Fernandez, Rogelio de la Rosa, Gaudencio Antonio, and Ambrosio Padilla; Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal; Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun; Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano; Reps. Amadeo Perez of Pangasinan, Gerardo Roxas of Capiz, Manuel T. Cases of La Union; and Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur; Executive Secretary Salvador Mariño, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.; Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova; Acting EEA Administrator Eleutrio Adevosio; OEC Administrator Manuel Cuenco; Press Secretary Leocio R. Paruñgao, Jr.; and Lanao del Norte Gov. Ali Dimaporo.

This morning the Chief Executive also met with BIR Commissioner Jose B. Lingad, PNB President Rafael Recto, MPD Chief Eduardo Quintos, and Corporate Counsel Tomas Matic on matters concerning their respective offices.

He also received newly appointed Justice Hermogenes Concepcion, Jr., of the Court of Appeals.

In the afternoon the President received officials of the United States Veterans Administration who paid him a courtesy call.

Accompanied by Prime Minister Richard M. Service of the local US embassy, those who called on the Chief Executive were John S. Gleason, USVA administrator in Washington; H.H. Monk, USVA associate deputy administrator; C.F. Brickfield, USVA general counsel; and Henry Swanson, local USVA manager.

The visiting USVA officials are in Manila to observe the operation of the USVA local office with a view to establishing a similar office in Europe.

The President also met with members of the national defense press corps who were accompanied by Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., and Emerito de Jesus, DND information officer.

In the evening President and Mrs. Macapagal entertained editors of metropolitan dailies and magazines in an informal dinner at the Palace.

President Macapagal directed new PC Chief Gen. Domindor Garcia to take steps to control peace and order in Cavite, particularly along the highway route to Tagaytay City. He issued the order after conferring with Tourist Commissioner Teofilo Zosa on the "frequent unpleasant incidents" on the Cavite road en route to Tagaytay.

The President's action closely followed the ambush of a car carrying a son of Ambassador Modesto Farolan and visiting tourist on the Tagaytay highway, in which the driver was wounded. As a result, the American President Lines decided to place Tagaytay off-limits to APL passengers desiring to visit that city.

Earlier the President in conference with Manila Police Chief Eduardo Quintos and ordered the latter to help protect tourists coming to Manila.

The President directed Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., to conduct an immediate investigation of reported "fraudulent practice" of a shopping center in Quezon City.

Ordered investigated by the Chief Executive was the owner of the Crespo Marker and Shopping Center in Project 6 for irregular issuance of receipts to stallholders, which might have deprived the government of a considerable amount of taxes.

The order came after the President received a letter from Sen. Gaudencio Antonio on the reported malpractices.

In his letter to the President, the Senator said that most of the receipts issued to stallholders at the market are not registered with the bureau of internal revenue. Besides, he said, while the amount of from P4 to P8 is actually collected from the stallholders, supporting receipts issued to them are only for P1.50 or less.

**January 5.**—THE President spent this day going over pending state paper.

Although he did not receive callers, the President and the First Lady tendered a luncheon in honor of New Jersey Governor and Mrs. Robert Meyner, who are in Manila visiting with U.S. Ambassador and Mrs. William E. Stevenson. Governor Meyner is the son-in-law of the American Ambassador.

Present at the luncheon were Ambassador and Mrs. Stevenson, Col. and Mrs. Andres Soriano, Sr., Senator and Mrs. Manuel P. Manahan, Rep. and Mrs. Gerardo Roxas of Capiz, Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Elizalde, and Jesus Cabarrus.

During the luncheon the President presented Gov. Meyner with a copy of a book entitled, *Diosdado Macapagal—Triumph over Poverty*, by Sol H. Gwekoh and an ashtray carved out of *kamagong* wood.

Ambassador Stevenson gave the Chief Executive a 30-minute film on President Kennedy.

In the evening the First Couple tendered an informal dinner in honor of Malacañang newsmen and their ladies.

President Macapagal today announced the composition of the Philippine panel that will negotiate with representatives of the British government on the North Borneo issue.

The members are Vice-President and Secretary of Foreign Affairs Emmanuel Pelaez, as chairman, and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Sen. Raul Manglapus, Rep. Jovito Salonga, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez, and Philippine Ambassador to the United Nations Eduardo Quintero.

The President designated the members of the panel after conferring with Pelaez in Malacañang this evening.

*Source:* **Supreme Court Library**

Macapagal, D. (1963). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 59 (1), iii-ix.

**President's Week in Review: January 6-30, 1963**

**President's Week in Review: February 1-9, 1963**

## President's Week in Review: February 10-16, 1963

### Official Week in Review

**February 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived at 12:20 p.m. today into the welcoming arms of a big crowd in Laoag, Ilocos Norte, Liberal Party bailiwick now observing its town fiesta.

The President was met at the provincial boundary by Sens. Ferdinand E. Marcos, Rogelio de la Rosa, and Eulogio Balao, and Ilocos Norte Gov. Jose Evangelista. A 21-gun salute boomed as the presidential car entered Laoag.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President went straight to the local cathedral to hear the high noon mass and then repaired to the provincial high school for lunch.

This afternoon the President addressed big rally at the athletic grounds. He was scheduled to leave for Manila by car after *merienda* and is expected in Malacañang tomorrow morning.

The President went to Laoag from San Fernando, La Union, where he crowned the fiesta queen last night.

He motored down to Poro Point from Baguio City, where he had addressed the Rotary International conference on its closing day.

**February 11.**—The President returned early this morning from a three-day trip to northern Luzon where he attended tow fiestas.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, took off from Poro Point, La Union, aboard the presidential Fokker plane *Common Man*.

After a brief rest and breakfast in Malacañang, the Chief Executive motor to the Manila Hotel where he addressed the 10th National Congress of Sugar Industry.

In his speech the President called upon the sugar industry to unite and prepare a program to meet common problems, especially those which may arise from the termination of the Laurel-Langley agreement in 1974. He was guest of honor and speaker at the opening of the 10th National Congress of the Sugar Industry at the Manila Hotel this noon.

In the afternoon the President received the credentials of new Greek Ambassador to the Philippines Alexis S. Liatis in a ceremony held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall. Present at the ceremony were members of the Cabinet and officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Ambassador Liatis was accompanied to Malacañang by President George Lucas Adamson and Vice-President Alexander Adamson of the Adamson University. The Greek envoy took over from Minister George Caustas, who was recalled home for reassignment.

After the ceremony the President retired to his study where he and the First Lady received Portuguese Ambassador and Mrs. Carlos Nunez da Silva. They called at the Palace to say goodbye to the Chief Executive and the First Lady prior to departure tonight for home.

Da Silva, who had been recalled home for reassignment, was Portugal's ambassador to the Philippines for three years, starting minister plenipotentiary until his promotion to ambassador following the elevation of the Portuguese legation to an embassy nine months ago.

In the evening the President received a group of senators who took up with him matters of legislation.

**February 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal pledged anew today that his administration will do its level best so that, “henceforth the country’s rich natural resources will be enjoyed by all and not by a few.”

The Chief Executive made at the pledge in a speech this morning in Tarlac, Tarlac, where he was guest of honor and inducting officer of the Tarlac, Barrio Council Association. The induction ceremony was held at the town plaza.

The First Couple arrived in Tarlac at 10:30 a.m. They were met at the boundary of the province by a large delegation of provincial and municipal officials headed by Tarlac Gov. Benigno Aquino and Board Member Bienvenido Buan. A cheering crowd, braving the noonday sun, lined the main avenue of the capital town to give the First Couple a rousing welcome upon their arrival this morning following a two-and-a-half-hour drive from Manila.

Immediately upon arrival, the First Couple proceeded to the town plaza, where the Chief Executive inducted the officers of the association. The President was introduced by Gov. Aquino, who said that he was “grateful that after the death of President Magsaysay, another man of the masses appeared in the Person of President Macapagal whose main obsession is to champion the cause of the poor.”

Following the induction rites, the First Couple proceeded to the new P97,000 Tarlac Development Bank building, where Mrs. Macapagal cut the ceremonial ribbon, formally opening the bank to the public.

After the bank inauguration the First Couple had lunch tendered by the officials of the agency, at the roof garden of the building.

Following lunch the President and the First Lady were taken to the Tarlac Provincial Hospital site by Gov. Aquino, who informed the President that the province still needed P300,000 to complete the hospital.

From the hospital site, the First Couple motored back to Manila, arriving here at past 3 p.m. The President did not receive callers this afternoon.

This afternoon the President thanked the United States Marines stationed here for their help in alleviating the plight of the flood sufferers in Agusan and other parts of Mindanao. The U.S. Marine helicopters played a key role during the flood in the distribution of government relief goods and in the evacuation of flood victims.

The President’s gratitude was conveyed to Rear Admiral David Welsh, at his command post at Sangley Point in Cavite City, in a telegram sent by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño.

President Macapagal submitted today to Congress a proposed P1.752 billion budget for the fiscal year 1964.

The budget was presented to Congress before the expiration at midnight tonight of the deadline of 15 days after the opening of the regular session of the Congress for submission of the budget.

The President, in his 19-page budget message, said that the estimated general fund receipts from existing sources for the fiscal year 1964 mount to P1.752 billion which is P225 million greater than the estimate for fiscal year 1963.

He said that the expected increase in general fund revenue will be made possible by “our efforts to eliminate or at least minimize graft and corruption and by intensified tax collection campaign, particularly the relentless anti-smuggling drive of the Bureau of Customs and the vigorous campaign of the Bureau of Internal Revenue against tax evasion.”

A significant future of the proposed budget is the allocation of adequate funds to increase the salaries of some 300,000 national government employees beginning July, 1964.

Salary increases will be effected through the adjustment of WAPCO ranges which would require P32.7 million and the setting aside of an additional P38.4 million for the salary adjustment fund.



The substantial increase in the over-all expenditures for the fiscal year 1964 over last year's budgetary outlay is due principally to the augmented outlays for the different departmental agencies.

The education department is given the biggest absolute increase with P82.8 million over that of last year's appropriation. The additional outlay is for the opening of extension classes in the elementary schools and for other increased educational services.

In order to alleviate the conditions in the rural areas, the President presented an elaborate program on community development to be undertaken by the Bureau of Agricultural Extension and the Presidential Assistant on Community Development, which have been given combined appropriations of more than P22 million for the fiscal year 1964.

The President likewise stressed the need for continuing the administration program for multi-storey tenement housing projects to house poor families in the low-income bracket.

He pledged to extend his moral regeneration program to the ranks of labor leaders.

As a manifestation of this genuine interest in labor he has set aside P9.2 million for the fiscal year 1964 for the Department of Labor, or an increase of P4.1 million over that of 1963 which is unprecedented in the history of the labor department.

**February 13.**—THIS morning President Macapagal discussed with John D. Rockefeller III the socio-economic conditions in the country and the Administration's land reform program. Rockefeller was a breakfast guest of the President and the First Lady at Malacañang.

In their talk the Chief Executive said that the Philippines is undergoing a change in which political, economic, and moral reforms are being introduced for the benefit of the people.

The visiting American dignitary expressed agreement with the Chief Executive that land reform is one of the most important problems in Asia.

The President commended the efforts being undertaken by the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in Los Baños, Laguna, to disseminate more information about new and advanced methods in agricultural science and technology.

Rockefeller is chairman of the board of the Rockefeller Foundation, which helped underwrite the establishment of the IRRI in Laguna. He arrived in Manila last Monday with an associate, Lewis Lapham, for a five-day visit.

Also present during the breakfast were Commerce Secretary and Mrs. Rufino G. Hechanova, Charge d'Affaires and Mrs. Richard Service of the U.S. Embassy; Minister and Mrs. James Ingersoll of ESSO General Manager and Mrs. Chris Larsen.

Following the breakfast, the Chief Executive received members of the House of Representatives headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal.

The President also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party of 12 prominent labor leaders from Mindanao who took their oath before Speaker Villareal.

Inductees were Cipriano Malonzo and Marcaino Canlas, president and vice-president, respectively, of the Mindanao Labor Federation, Ranulfo Romano, Ramon Rubio, Eliezor Amparado, Carlos Baricua, Claro Ceniza, Jose Tulod, Ildefonso Mangura, Gregorio Villanueva, Nick Pangutalan, and Ben de los Santos.

Others inducted were NP Councilors Mariano Araneta, Leon Forman, and Toribio Barredo of Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo; Mayor Teodoro L. Padilla and Councilors Teofilo Masa, Narciso Rollan, and Zosimo Macaranas of Carrangalan, Nueva Ecija.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive received British Ambassador John Pilcher, who came to pay his respects following his recent return from London.

The British Ambassador was accompanied to Malacañang by acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Remeo Busuego.

**February 14.**—THE RECORD CROWD of close to 1,500 jammed the Malacañang social hall today to see President Macapagal on

The Chief Executive spent Valentine Day today by giving some 124 titles covering lands of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation to tenants at the PHHC office in Quezon City.

The President accompanied by the First Lady, motored to the PHHC office this afternoon to give personally the land titles to residents in PHHC Projects 1 and 2. The Chief Executive, in a ceremony, was introduced by Chairman Esmeraldo Eco go the PHHC board.

Acting General Manager Estanislao Bernal of the PHHC and Economic Coordinator Manuel Cuenco were also at the PHHC to meet President Macapagal.

After doling out land titles to PHHC tenants, the President and the First Lady visited ailing revolutionary General Emilio Aguinaldo at the Veteran's Memorial Hospital. Then they returned to Malacañang, arriving there about 7:45 p.m.

Earlier in the afternoon the President received Ambassador Zaiton Ibrahim Bin Ahmad of Malaya, who returned recently from Kuala Lumpur. No details were available on the Malayan envoy's meeting with the President. The envoy's visit was purely a courtesy call.

**February 15.**—A RECORD CROWD of close to 1,500 jammed the Malacañang social hall today to see President Macapagal on various matters ranging from pledges of support of the President's program of government to requests for aid to community projects. The grounds fronting the Palace teemed with people who lined up in twos to talk to the Chief Executive on this regular weekly "Common Man's Day" at Malacañang.

A cripple, Luis Mallari from the Social Welfare Administration, rolled into the social hall to present the Chief Executive with a doormat he made at the SWA workshop. Seated on a wooden platform with four small wheels, he wished the President success in his administration.

Mesdames Maria Pascual and Olivia Serrano of Palawan sought redress for the loss of their children, who perished at sea when a passenger ship of Rio y Compañia sank at the Palawan sea in 1959. They claimed that the shipping company would not heed their demands for damages.

Two delegations of more than 100 persons each asked help in their land problems, while a group from Laur, Nueva Ecija, submitted a petition to exclude from the Army reservation certain land areas in Laur and distribute them to tenants.

Another group from Guimba and Cuyapo, Nueva Ecija, led by Emilio Castellanes petitioned the Chief Executive to segregate Hacienda Esperanze from public lands and distribute it to tenants who had been ejected from the *hacienda* during the Japanese occupation.

A young lady on the family way, Mrs. Dence B. Mirandilla of Manila, complained that the management of a shirt factory where she works was denying her a maternity leave of absence.

Among other matters brought to the President's attention were ejectment cases, pending backpay claims, and hospitalization aid requests.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., noted that matters being taken up by the public with the Chief Executive were veering away from routine requests for job and financial aid to social endeavors and community projects.

The President, assisted by the First Lady and Malacañang aides, began receiving callers at 8:30 o'clock this morning.

After receiving about 250 of them in his study, the President took time out for a cup of coffee and then went downstairs to the social hall, where he untiringly received the rest of the callers. He stood up from his chair shortly before 1 p.m., stretching his arms as he did so, obviously happy that he was able to attend to all of the callers once more.

The President today issued Proclamation No. 82, setting aside the third week of February every year as Public Administration Week, and revoking Proclamation No. 357, issued in 1956, which had set it for the second week of November.

The President, in his proclamation, observed that the old schedule had made the observance impractical and unsuitable because it coincided with the general elections every two years.

The Council on Administration Management, headed by Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adeveso, recommended the change.

President Macapagal today called upon the police forces of the country to shy away from partisan politics. He issued the call in a brief speech before the Metropolitan Police Association, on the occasion of the induction of officers of the association at the Bulakeña Restaurant on Dewey Boulevard, at which he was guest of honor and inducting officer.

The President observed that electioneering by organized armed authorities, like the police, "seriously endangers and nullifies the free exercise of the right of suffrage to the grave peril of democracy."

The President revealed that this in mainly why his administration denied a petition for commutation of the death sentences of the chief of police and four policemen and the mayor who connived with them in terrorizing and killing Moises Padilla in Negros Occidental during the 1949 election. He said this also was why he denied a petition for pardon of former Gov. Rafael Lacson, who was under life sentence for the same crime.

**February 16.**—This day the President conferred with Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez on the progress of recent negotiations held in London on the Philippine claim over North Borneo.

Upon returning this afternoon from Hongkong, Pelaez rushed to Malacañang to report to the Chief Executive.

Present at the conference were Press Secretary Leoncio Parungao, Jr., Sen. Raul Manglapus, Rep. Godofredo Ramos, and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez.

The President later received provincial, city, and municipal treasurers and assessors who had just concluded a five-day convention in Manila. The Chief Executive appealed to them for greater dedication to public service "so that this monumental task of freeing our people from the shackles of poverty could be accomplished in a shorter period of time."

Some 1,200 treasurers and assessors who are members of the Provincial, City, and Municipal Treasurers and Assessors Association of the Philippines, saw the President. They were headed by Francisco Panajon, acting

president. They were also accompanied by Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., and Finance Undersecretary Jorge Labayo.

The President issued today a proclamation declaring Tuesday, February 19, this year, a special public holiday in the sub-province of Aurora, Quezon. The President proclaimed the special public holiday in commemoration of the 74th birthday of the late Mrs. Aurora Aragon Quezon.

President Macapagal ordered today the dismissal of a justice of the peace and a clerk of court.

Ordered dismissed were Anastacio Budlong, justice of the peace of Caraga, Davao, and Pio Dimaculañgan, clerk of court and provincial sheriff *ex officio* of Palawan.

Dimaculañgan was found guilty of an administrative charge of dishonesty filed against him by government auditors.

He allegedly presented a receipt showing that he had paid P576 for subsistence for 48 days on field duty in Coron, Palawan, when in fact he paid only P200. The respondent clerk of court had been in the service 37 years.

Judge Budlong, on the other hand, was administratively charged by one Elpidio Gumabao for conduct unbecoming of a public official.

Budlong allegedly (1) ordered the numbering and marking of the complainant's coconut trees; (2) called the complainant names and challenged him to a fistfight or gun duel; and (3) caused the filing of a complaint for qualified theft against Gumabao.

Vicente N. Cusi, Jr., the district judge who investigated the case, found the respondent guilty on all counts and recommended his dismissal.

*Source:* **Supreme Court Library**

Macapagal, D. (1963). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 59 (7), lv-lx.

## **Official Week in Review: February 17 – February 23, 1963**

**February 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal visited Tarlac today for the second time in six days to induct into the Liberal Party more than 100 Nacionalistas headed by Rep. Jose Cojuangco, Jr. Accompanied by the First Lady, the President left Malacañang by car at 8 a.m. and reached the Tarlac boundary two hours later.

At the Tarlac boundary, the President was met by provincial officials headed by NP Gov. Benigno S. Aquino, Jr., who is Rep. Cojuangco's brother-in-law.

The President passed through Bamban town and greeted the people who turned out into the streets to see the Chief Executive and the First Lady.

At the Paniqui boundary, the President was met by Rep. and Mrs. Cojuanco, Jr., who sat with the newsmen in the presidential car, displacing Gov. Aquino, who joined the newsmen in the presidential entourage to the town church.

The President and the First Lady then heard a *Te Deum* at the local church where they were joined by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Rep. Virgilio Afable of Zambales, Sens. Rogelio de la Rosa and Eulogio Balao, and Economic Coordinator Manuel Cuenco.

After the mass the President proceeded to the Cojuangco compound for the induction. Later he addressed a big crowd which gathered inside the Cojuangco compound.

The President and the First Lady had lunch at the same place. While eating, the President met newsmen who accompanied him to Tarlac.

From Paniqui, the President and the First Lady motored to Concepcion to be the guests of former Rep. Jose Y. Feliciano, chairman of the Rice and Corn Administration. They were scheduled to return early this evening to Manila.

President Macapagal today hailed the formal signing of the \$15 million loan agreement with the World Bank that will facilitate the operation of the Private Development Corporation of the Philippines (PDCP) by the middle of this year.

The President said that the PDCP, together with the Development Bank of the Philippines, will concentrate on medium and long-term financing of priority projects and fill a critical credit gap in the five-year socio-economic development of the country.

Calling the PDCP "a major achievement in international cooperation under the free enterprise system," the President said the Filipino-run corporation could not have become possible without the enthusiastic response and confidence of American investment bankers, the U.S. government, and Filipino investors in the future of the Philippines.

The \$15 million World Bank loan will be made available to the Private Development Bank through the government-owned Philippine National Bank.

**February 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, accompanied by the First Lady, arrived in Baler, Quezon, at 5:30 p.m. to join the people of the birthplace of the late President Quezon in the celebration of the 77th birthday anniversary of Mrs. Aurora Aragon-Quezon.

The Chief Executive was accorded a rousing welcome following an eight-hour grueling motor trip through rugged dusty and dangerous zig-zag roads from Manila.

The President's party made a brief stop at Bongabong, where a huge throng clamored for the President to alight from his car and shake hands with them.

President and Mrs. Macapagal had lunch at the Villa Aurora rest house located in the midst of the Sierra Madre mountains, erstwhile Huk stronghold. The resthouse is within sight of the place where Mrs. Quezon and party were ambushed by Hukbalahaps.

President Macapagal will pay tribute tomorrow to the late President Quezon and Mrs. Aurora Quezon, as he leads the people of Baler in the celebration of the 77th birthday anniversary of Doña Aurora.

The President will lay wreaths at a marker of President Quezon and at a statue of Doña Aurora in front of the Capitol.

The day has been declared a special holiday in the sub-province of Aurora by President Macapagal in a proclamation he issued yesterday.

**February 19.**—EARLY this morning the President and the First Lady laid wreaths at a marker of the late President Quezon at the town plaza and at a statue of Mrs. Aurora Quezon in front of a memorial hospital named after her, in Baler, Quezon. The First Couple also offered a minute's silent prayers in their memory.

Following the wreath-laying rites, the President was the guest speaker at the memorial program held at the municipal building. Other speakers were Rep. Eladio Caliwara, Gov. Claro Robles, and Baler Mayor Manuel Molina.

President Macapagal paid tribute to the late Doña Aurora Aragon Quezon, saying she was the "idol of Filipino womanhood," in a speech delivered at ceremonies commemorating her 75th birth anniversary. The President said that Doña Aurora "served as an inspiration to President Quezon in his fight for Philippine independence and social justice for his people."

"It is towards the realization of Quezon's dream to give an opportunity for a better life to the common people that the Macapagal administration is determined to push through its five-year socio-economic program," the President said.

The program ended about 11 a.m. after a civic parade participated in by local schools and business establishments.

Shortly after noon the President boarded the *RPS Cebu* for a five-hour trip to Casiguran where he was to confer with local officials and address a public rally upon arrival at 4:30 p.m.

President Macapagal this morning gave two ranking members of his Cabinet a free hand in deciding whether or not to appear before the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee.

Secretary of Justice Juan R. Liwag and Secretary of Commerce and Industry Rufino G. Hechanova have been asked to enlighten the committee on charges that they had violated the constitution by accepting directorships in private corporations.

"It is up to them," the Chief Executive remarked.

He told the newsmen during a brief interview in Baler that the two Cabinet secretaries "can take care of themselves."

He refused, however, to comment on the charges made by Sen. Lorenzo Tañada that Secretaries Liwag and Hechanova had violated the Constitution in holding positions in the boards of directors of private corporations.

At the same time, the President said he was awaiting the results of consultations between Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez and leaders of Congress on the proposed Asian summit meeting on the Federation of Malaysia. The proposed summit conference is held significant because it would directly affect the Philippines' claim to North Borneo.

The President had directed Vice-President Pelaez to confer with congressional leaders on the next course of action to be taken in the dispute.

**February 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Baguio this afternoon following a three-day visit to remote towns of northern Quezon province. He is scheduled to address tomorrow the seventh national convention of Filipino businessmen which coincides with the 60th anniversary of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to Baguio from Dingalan, Quezon, where the presidential party disembarked from the *RPS Cebu* after an over-night voyage from Casiguran, northernmost town of Quezon.

At Dingalan the President was prevailed upon by the townsfolk who met him upon arrival from Casiguran to address a rally off the municipal building.

Explaining his program of government, the Chief Executive exhorted the people of Dingalan to support administration efforts “to redeem the common man from poverty and want.” The President also asked the Dingalan residents to support the administration campaign to oust from the Senate in the coming elections “those Nacionalistas who are trying to block the government’s program for national progress.”

A sizable crowd of loggers and their families braved a slight morning drizzle to hear the President expound on the aims of his administration. The President decried “obstructionism” on the part of the present Senate leadership.

En route to Cabanatuan City, where he had lunch at the office of the city engineer, the Chief Executive was hailed by the people of the communities he and his party passed through.

He left Cabanatuan about one o’clock in the afternoon and arrived at the Mansion House at 4:30 p.m.

**February 21.**—THE President this morning worked on the draft of the speech he delivered before the businessmen’s convention held in the Pines Hotel in Baguio City.

At 12:20 p.m. the President left the Guest House with the First Lady and Commerce Secretary Rufino Hechanova for the Pines Hotel, where he addressed the businessmen’s convention.

After dinner with the traders, President Macapagal delivered his prepared speech, and returned to the Guest House for a brief rest.

The President left tonight for Manila to enable him to meet the general public on his weekly “citizens day” in Malacañang.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President wound up a four-day trip which took him to farflung towns like Baler, Casiguran, and Dingalan in Quezon.

He arrived in Baguio City yesterday afternoon to address the seventh convention of Filipino businessmen and the 60th convention of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines.

President Macapagal today issued a proclamation declaring the period from March 11 to 17 as Accountancy Week.

He proclaimed Accountancy Week “to bring to the attention of the people the important role played by certified public accountants in the development of the national economy.”

The President said accountants, by reason of the vantage position they occupy in the field of business, finance, and industry, have contributed immensely to the progress of the economy.

**February 22.**—REPORTS of a plot against the life of President Macapagal bought a middle-aged woman to Malacañang this morning to offer the Chief Executive an amulet “for your protection.”

Felisa Recto of Manila, one of some 1,450 men and women who trooped to Malacañang for the regular weekly “Common Man’s Day” at the Palace, told the President she was worried about reports of a plot assassinate him. Gingerly searching her bag as she talked to the Chief Executive, she produced a tiny booklet with a crucifix and gave it to the President that you may be protected all the time.”

The President started meeting the people as early as 8 o’clock this morning, half an hour earlier than on the previous Common Men’s Day. He wanted to meet all of his callers who gathered at the Malacañang gates as early as 5:30 o’clock this morning.

Jose Venancio Jose said he was among about 50 persons who decided to come early. He waited at the square in front of Malacañang.

Most of the callers today saw the President on individual land problems and proposals for expropriation of landed estates, as well as public lands, and requests for government aid to community development projects. Others came to thank the Chief Executive for assistance extended them in the past or to wish him success in his administration.

Mrs. Ceferina Labao of Paco, Manila, informed President Macapagal of the case of her son who was killed by Pat. Campo of Precinct 4 of Manila on December 4, 1961. She said she brought the case to court, and was promised P3,000 in amicable settlement by the fiscal. But up to now, she said, she has received only a letter informing her that her case had been dropped.

A group of 10 textile workers from the National Development Company (NDC), led by their union president, Bonifacio R. de Luna, called to express their gratitude for the sale of the textile company to its workers.

Engineer Salvador Bucud handed a plan for the storage of rainwater to solve the yearly water shortage.

Jose Deogracias, barrio lieutenant of Sta. Lucia, Quezon City, requested aid toward the general improvement of their barrio, including repair of their roads.

A delegation of 112 teachers from Guinobatan, Albay, headed by their district supervisor, Severino Rantazo, called on the President to pay their respects and wish him success.

Fr. Fenton Fitzpatrick of Impasugong, Bukidnon, informed President Macapagal of encroachments by forest concessionaires and pasture leaseholders on 12 barrios in his parish. He said that people who had been occupying lands in the barrios for decades are being driven out by the concessionaires.

The President attended to the general public up to 1 o’clock in the afternoon, leaving his chair only once to have a cup of coffee.

**February 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was guest speaker today at ceremonies marking the graduation of 20-year-old trainees in Fort Magsaysay, Laur, Nueva Ecija. The Chief Executive arrived at the Fort 10 a.m. after a two-and-a-half-hour drive from Malacañang. He was accompanied by the First Lady.

Upon arrival the President was accorded full military honors by an honor guard of 20-year-old trainees. The First Couple was welcomed by Brig. Gen. Ernesto Mata, commanding general of the 1st Infantry (TABAK) Division.

After the welcome ceremonies, President and Mrs. Macapagal proceeded to the fort chapel where *Te Deum* was sung in their honor. Then they motored to the ceremonial grounds where the President, as commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, inspected the troops.



The graduation ceremonies were followed by a demonstration of parachute drops by a platoon of soldiers belonging to the special service command headed by Capt. Fidel Ramos. The President was given also demonstration of the firing proficiency and capabilities of a squad of trainees. They fired live ammunition from a distance of approximately 25 yards at small balloon, held by their “buddies” at about a foot from their breast. An artillery unit, wholly manned by trainees firing 105 mm howitzers, also gave a military demonstration.

Later, the First Couple toured the 3,000-hectare military installation, accompanied by Gen. Mata, DND Undersecretary Alberto de Joya and other top brass. They were shown the fort cattle ranch, where the President branded the first cow of the ranch. Gen. Mata informed the President that the ranch was set-up in line with the socio-economic program of the Armed Forces.

From there, the members of the presidential party proceeded to the *Bahay Pahingahan* (officer’s club) where they had lunch. They were joined by Rep. Felicisimo Ocampo, Gov. Eduardo Joson, Lt. Gen. Alfredo Santos, AFP chief of staff, and other ranking AFP officials and their ladies.

Gen. and Mrs. Ernesto Mata presented the First Couple with a *Tabak* (bolo) each, the symbol of the First Division. They also gave the Macapagals a copy of the harmony tablets of the “Malacañang March” composed by 1st Lt. Leonardo C. Sabale, head of the 1st Division Band, and an album of pictures taken on their visit to the fort.

After lunch the First Couple motored back to Malacañang, arriving at the Palace about 5 p.m.

*Source: Supreme Court Library*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1963). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 59 (8), lxiii-lxvii.

## **Official Week in Review: February 24 – March 2, 1963**

**February 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent almost the whole day today working on state papers.

At past 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, motored along Dewey Boulevard for a breadth of fresh air. They then proceeded to Paco for a visit to the Fabie subdivision. A big crowd soon formed to greet the First Couple upon learning of their presence.

During his brief stay in the Fabie subdivision, the President distributed "New Era" T-shirts to children of the subdivision and of an adjacent squatters' area.

While distributing the shirts in front of the shack of Federico Aguilar, the President was presented by Lorenzo Cruz, president of the *Kapisanan ng Pinagbuklod na Mahihirap*, with a formal petition urging the division and distribution of a portion of the subdivision which had been earmarked for a playground.

From the Fabie estate, the Chief Executive rode back to Malacañang. The President and Mrs. Macapagal, together with their children, heard mass at the Palace chapel upon arrival.

The President today signed separate administrative orders considering resigned and separated from the service an assistant provincial fiscal and a register of deeds.

Discharged were Edmundo M. Ruado, assistant provincial fiscal of Romblon who had been found guilty of immorality, and Vicente M. Capellan, register of deeds of Isabela, for neglect on duty and habitual violation of office regulations.

A special prosecutor of the Department of Justice who investigated Ruado found that the fiscal "had amorous relations with a woman whom he promised to marry, culminating in her giving birth to a child."

The papers on the case showed that Ruado subsequently married another woman.

"A public servant's private life should be as impeccable as his public service should be dedicated," the President stated.

"High standards of morality are required and expected of everyone in the government service," he added.

A previous administrative order issued on March 26, 1960, dismissed Register of Deeds Capellan on a presumption of guilt based on his failure to answer charges against him.

The charges were neglect of duty and violation of office regulations, and second delivering a land title to one not authorized to receive it. In a subsequent reinvestigation conducted upon his request, Capellan proved that delivery of the title was in accordance with a court order.

The Department of Justice, therefore, recommended that he be reinstatement was no longer feasible, he be allowed to resign without prejudice to the right to enjoy leave of retirement privileges that had accrued at the time of his separation from office.

The President approved the latter penalty, considering respondent's habitual violation of office rules to be sufficiently serious to warrant his discontinuance in the service.

**February 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent a busy morning today conferring with provincial and city officials on matters affecting their respective regions.

Those who met with the Chief Executive were Gov. Arsenio Villarosa of Occidental Mindoro, Melanio T. Singson of Isabela, Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, Claro M. Robles of Quezon, Eduardo Joson of Nueva Ecija, Miguel Manguerra of Marinduque, Corazon Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, and Pedro Dizon of Bataan; Vice-Govs. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental and Germanico Carreon of Zamboanga del Norte; and City Mayors Luis Los Baños of Legaspi and Camilo Cabili of Iligan.

Before conferring with the provincial and city executives, the President administered the oaths of office to Ramon P. Martinez as general manager of the Cebu Portland Cement Company and to Ernesto C. Reyes as chief of police of Calbayog City.

He also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal of 17 Nacionalista leaders from Leyte headed by Ex-Rep. Alberto T. Aguja and Provincial Board Members Teofilio Redubla and Enrique Granados.

The President then received officials of the local United Nations office, who submitted a formal invitation for him and the First Lady to head the list of guests at the launching of the "All-Star Festival," a UN record sales campaign to aid world refugees, at the WHO conference hall on United Nations Avenue tomorrow. The President spearheaded the purchase of the records here by buying the first copy.

Those who called on the Chief Executive were Paul Edwards, Dr. I.C. Fang, Alfred McKensie, and Reynaldo D. Pacheco of the local UN office, and Dr. Manuel Gallego of the United Nations Association of the Philippines.

The Chief Executive also received Joseph E. Gandy, president of the Seattle World's Fair, who arrived in Manila yesterday in the course of a "Thank You" tour around the world to the participating nations. With Gandy in his call on the President were his wife Laurine and daughter Marylene, Luis Araneta, and Commerce Undersecretary Medina Lacson de Leon.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive conferred with representatives of various government financial institutions on the practice of depositing government funds in private banks. Among those who conferred with him were Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, GSIS General Manager Ramon Diaz, Social Security Administration Rene Espina, and CB Monetary Board Member Armand Fabella.

Following the conference, the President presided over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

Later, he received members of the Senate in his study. Those who came to see the President on various matters were Sens. Ferdinand Marcos, Manuel Manahan, Estanislao Fernandez, Gaudencio Antonino, Francisco Rodrigo, Eulogio Balao, Camilo Osias, and Maria Kalaw-Katigbak.

The President approved today the gradual transfer of the opening date of the school year from the month of June to the month of September in all schools, public and private. Approval came in the course of the Cabinet's regular weekly meeting this afternoon.

To facilitate the necessary curricular or administrative adjustments, as well as to prevent a long vacation during the period of transition, the implementation of the change shall be gradual, as follows: 1963-1964, first Monday of July 1963; 1964-1965, first Monday of August 1964; and 1965-1966, first Monday of September 1965. Each year thereafter, the schools shall open in September and close in June.

The President issued a proclamation declaring today a special public holiday in eight Muslim provinces and cities celebrating the feast of Eidul-Fair, one of the most important festivals celebrated annually by Muslims throughout the world. The day marks the culmination of their 30-day fasting period.

Affected by the proclamation were the provinces of Cotabato, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, and Sulu, and the cities of Basilan, Cotabato, Iligan, and Marawi. Muslim officials and employees of the government, national and local, working outside these provinces and cities are likewise exempted from duty on this feast day.

**February 26.**—CATANDUANES, erstwhile opposition-dominated province, turned Liberal today with the mass affiliation to the majority party of Nacionalista provincial officials headed by Rep. Jose Alberto, Gov. Jorge V. Almojuela, Vice-Gov. Delfin G. Posada, and Board Member Andres T. Torres. President Macapagal inducted them into the Liberal Party in ceremonies held at the Virac town plaza.

Joining the provincial officials into the Liberal Party were six municipal mayors and some 300 councilors, barrio lieutenants, and ward leader.

The mass affiliation virtually wiped out the opposition in the province, where President Macapagal lost to former President Garcia by some 1,000 votes during the 1961 elections.

In joining the Administration Party, the new Liberals expressed faith in the President's socio-economic program which, they said "would redeem the common man from poverty and misery."

Rep. Alberto, who spoke at the induction ceremonies, said Catanduanes decided to support the Administration because "our people are convinced of the sincerity of President Macapagal in his effort to improve the lot of the common man." Alberto said that although the President never once asked him to affiliate with the LP, he voluntarily joined the Administration "for the good of my poor province."

The six new Liberal mayors are Pedro Beraquit of Baras, Amando L. Vergara of Bato, Gervasio R. de la Rosa of Caramoran, Isidro C. Icaromon of Pandan. Francisco Bernal of Panganiban, and Salvador Surtida of Virac.

Mayor Manuel V. Usero of Viga, the only remaining Nacionalista mayor on the island was unable to take his oath as he was abroad.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, arrived shortly before noon on board the *RPS Ifuga* from Tabaco, Albay, after an overnight trip aboard the presidential train from Manila. A big crowd, which swarmed the wharf and lined the streets from the pier to the plaza, accorded the First Couple an enthusiastic welcome.

The welcomers were led by Rep. Alberto, Gov. Almojuela, and other provincial and municipal officials. Also present at the wharf were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal and senatorial aspirants OEC Administrator Manuel Cuenco and Rep. Felicisimo Ocampo, who flew in earlier this morning to join the presidential party.

From the pier, President Macapagal and the First Lady proceeded to the Immaculate Concepcion church where a *Te Deum* was sung in their honor. Then they went to the town plaza to attend a public rally during which the Chief Executive inducted the provincial and municipal officials into the Liberal party.

In the afternoon the First Couple laid the cornerstone of a P500,000 capitol building. After the cornerstone-laying ceremonies, they enplaned for Manila.

**February 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received some 60 Congressmen and municipal officials at Malacañang.

Thirty-six members of the House of Representatives conferred with the Chief Executive on district matters, including the release of funds for various public works projects.

Delegations from the sub-province of Aurora, Mindoro Oriental, and Makati, Rizal, also saw the President.

Toward noon the President administered the oath of office to Manuel S. Gaba of Mindoro Oriental, as assistant director of patents, and Andres Lambot as councilor of Bansud, Mindoro Oriental. He also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party of Zamboanga del Norte Vice-Gov. Germanico A. Carreon, Board Member Prudencio C. Tui, Vice-Mayor Emilio A. Jacinto of Dapitan, Zamboanga del Norte, and Cesar Sequera, Makati political leader. Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun administered the oath of affiliation to the four political leaders.

The President received Conrado N. Cajator, chairman of the Presidential Committee and Atila Balgos, NARRA general manager.

In the afternoon the President conferred separately with U.S. Ambassador William Stevenson and Earl Carrol, president of the Philippine American Life Insurance Company. Carroll was accompanied to Malacañang by Dr. Manuel Lim.

Later this afternoon, the President held his weekly press conference.

In his press conference President Macapagal said he would not make any representations to stop proposed cuts in American aid to the Philippines and other southeast Asian Countries.

The President said that, instead, the Administration would push its program to utilize as much as possible all U.S. and other foreign aid available to the Philippines.

During the press conference, the Chief Executive also:

1. Denied that he had scheduled a state visit to Indonesia in April;
2. Justified the vast powers which would be given him if the 26 economic measures he had submitted to Congress were approved;
3. Denied he was trying to harass private bankers through government deposits in private banks; and
4. Refused objections to the change in the school calendar.

Commenting on the recommendation of a special U.S. Senate committee to slash American aid to Southeast Asian countries, including the Philippines, the President said it appeared that was a "general policy proposed to be adopted in relation to the global responsibility of the United States."

**February 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today Francisco Ortigas, Jr., chairman of the steering committee which negotiated a \$15 million loan from the World Bank and its affiliate International Finance Corporation.

Ortigas has just returned from Washington, where the agreement was signed recently.

Earlier the President received Philip Druiding of the William Wrigley, Jr., Company, who paid him a courtesy call. Druiding revealed that the company is putting up a factory here soon. He was accompanied to Malacañang by Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and Charles Clurman, local representative of the firm.

Jorge Mejia Palacio, executive director of the World Bank, also called on the President. Palacio was accompanied by Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., and Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo.

Another caller of the President was Jose P. Marcelo, president of the Marcelo Enterprises, who took up matters affecting his company.

The President did not receive callers in the morning. He busied himself instead with state papers.

The President signed today a proclamation declaring March 17-23, 1963 as "World Freedom from Hunger Week."

In his proclamation the Chief Executive noted that “the problems of world hunger and underdevelopment are assuming world proportions.”

He said it was to arouse public awareness and interest in the campaign that the Philippines, together with other member nations, was invited by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to proclaim “World Freedom From Hunger Week.”

President Macapagal has set aside every Thursday, from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon, as “Businessmen’s Day” to afford businessmen an opportunity to air personally their views on current problems and raise policy questions. The day is also designed to give the President an opportunity to consult with businessmen on projected business and economic measures of the Administration.

The President today directed the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee to dig deeper into a P5 million government supplies racket unearthed recently in Samar province. He issued the directive after receiving a partial investigation report on the case, which stated that the irregularities had been committed in 1961 during the Garcia administration.

PAGCOM Chairman Conrado N. Cajator said that the charges—malversation and falsification of public documents—were filed on the strength of PAGCOM findings thus far in its inquiries into the racket. He revealed that the irregular transactions were entered into shortly before the 1961 elections when municipal officials were allowed to requisition school, farm, construction, electrical, and other supplies ostensibly for the use of their municipalities.

Cajator said a PAGCOM team found that the requisitioned items were never delivered to the municipalities although the records showed complete delivery of the supplies to them.

The PAGCOM report also stated that a Ford Country sedan was purchased without the consent and knowledge of the municipal council of Calbayog, in violation of auditing requirements and without the necessary funds for the purpose.

**March 1.**—COMMON MAN’S DAY at Malacañang Palace today, saw a crowd of about 1,700 file past President Macapagal to consult him or to request assistance on various matters.

Among the callers were former Sen. Quintin Paredes and an American businessmen, D.W. Worthington of the Eastern Tobacco Trading Corporation.

The former Senator from Abra joined the early morning crowd that formed a long line leading to the President’s study to thank the Chief Executive for Paredes’ unsolicited appointment as a member of the Philippine national group to take charge of nominating candidates for election to the international Court of Justice.

Worthington saw President Macapagal on the exportation of locally-grown tobacco.

A story of a wrecked family life was tearfully related to the President by a Chinese woman, Francisca Wong, who claimed that her husband and his paramour drove her out of their conjugal home in Olongapo, Zambales.

Showing bruises on the face and arms allegedly inflicted jointly by her husband Chieng Yen and “the other woman,” she said between sobs that since her husband brought his paramour to their house, she has been a virtual outsider to the family property. She complained that a P200 alimony she was supposed to get has not been given to her regularly.

Antonio Sanchez, a contractual employee of the National Institute of Science and Technology, reported that the Institute has not paid his salary for a month and a half notwithstanding the fact that his appointment has been approved by the Civil Service Commission.

A delegation from Baclaran, Parañaque, Rizal, led by Teofilo Tolentino submitted a petition asking that a portion of land owned by the Civil Aeronautics Administration be subdivided and distributed among squatters who are being ejected from another CAA land.

Eliodoro Ponio, vice-chairman of the Council of Student Leaders of the FEATI University, requested on behalf of the FEATI student body, presidential intervention toward the early settlement of a dispute between the University management and the faculty members so that the students can go back to their classes.

A delegation of barrio lieutenants from Taguig, Rizal, led by Ricardo Cruz, national vice-president of the Barrio Lieutenants Association of the mudfish, and carabao milk. They also invited the Chief Executive to visit a rest house built for barrio lieutenants in Taguig.

The President received his visitors from 8 a.m. to 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Chief Executive granted a petition for absolute pardon submitted by Melanio S. Capellan of Uson, Masbate, who had been convicted of slight physical injuries and sentenced to 20 days' imprisonment. He was released from confinement on November 1, 1960, upon the expiration of his sentence.

The Board of Pardons and Parole, in a resolution dated March 5, 1962, recommended the grant of absolute pardons, noting that Capellan had conducted himself properly since his release from prison. The provincial board of Masbate and the justice of the peace of Uson, Masbate, also had recommended absolute pardon.

The President also approved a recommendation for reconsideration of an order separating from the PMA First Class Cadet Dictator L. Alqueza and for lightening his punishment to one-year suspension.

The Office of the Executive Secretary had ordered on Sept. 21, 1962, the dismissal of Alqueza for being absent after taps for one hour and 10 minutes and for passing cadet limits.

The youth's mother, who was a Common Man's Day caller, asked for reconsideration of separation order, which was granted promptly by the President.

At the time, the Chief Executive revoked an order for the deportation of Tia Bun Lian, who had been convicted of profiteering.

In seeking the lifting of the deportation order, the respondent claimed that he pleaded guilty to the profiteering charge because he was compelled by his employer to own the guilt and that the violation of the Pure Food and Drugs Act was committed by a helper.

President Macapagal issued today a proclamation declaring Saturday, March 2, a special public holiday in Cabatuan, Iloilo.

The President proclaimed the day in commemoration of the 72nd birth anniversary of the late Tomas Confesor," one of our most outstanding resistance leaders during the last war."

In the afternoon the First Lady motored to the DMG and Radiowealth compound in Mandaluyong, Rizal, where they were special guests at the opening of the National Economic Protectionism Association (NEPA) exposition.

Mrs. Macapagal officiated at the ribbon-cutting ceremonies signaling the opening of the five-day exhibition of locally-manufactured goods.

The First Couple motored back to Malacañang in the evening after looking over the goods displayed in the booths of participating firms.

**March 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal condoled today with the family of India's form President Rajendra Prasad, who died Friday night of pneumopneumonia in Patna, India.

In a cablegram sent through President Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan of the Republic of India, the Chief Executive expressed "sincere sympathy" on the death of the departed Indian leader.

The President directed today the Philippine Constabulary and the National Bureau of Investigation to join in the investigation of the death of Eulogio Bagunas, municipal treasurer of Quinapondan, Samar.

Chairman Conrado N. Cajator of the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee had asked for the assistance of the two agencies following receipt of information that Bagunas was a principal witness in a P5 million Samar supply racket being investigated by the committee.

A sketchy report received by the PAGCOM stated that it appeared that Bagunas was shot to death in Sto. Niño, hometown of a municipal mayor, who is a respondent in a criminal case arising from the supply racket, which is under preliminary investigation by special prosecutors of the Department of Justice.

Bagunas had given statements to PAGCOM agents to the effect that 600 bags of cement, which had been requisitioned by the municipality of Quinapondan never reached that town, despite records the contrary.

The treasurer also had made statements that requisitions for the cement were allegedly signed by the accused mayor, even though he was not yet the lawful executive of the town.

Chairman Cajator requested police protection for the other witnesses and for the members of the PAGCOM team who are returning to Samar next week to resume the investigation.

According to the report, the assailant has not yet been apprehended nor has his identity been established.

President Macapagal spent this day working on state papers.

After reading the morning papers, he closeted himself in his study and buckled down to work.

Following lunch, he took his *siesta* in the afternoon, then resumed work on state papers. He did not receive callers all day.

*Source:* **Supreme Court Library**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1963). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 59 (9), lxxi-lxxvii.



**President's Week in Review: March 1-9, 1963**

## **President's Week in Review: March 10-16, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**March 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent Sunday working on pending state papers in Malacañang.

After an early breakfast with Mrs. Macapagal, he closeted himself in his study with a pile of documents submitted to him for study.

Shortly before 10 a.m., the President took time out from his work and boarded his car for a ride around the city and suburbs. He was accompanied by the First Lady.

Returning to Malacañang about 11:31 a.m., the First Couple proceeded direct to the Palace chapel to hear mass.

The President continued working on pending papers in the afternoon.

President Macapagal authorized today the release of P1,127,500 to cover the monthly pensions of veterans for the months of March, April, May, and June, this year. The President directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release the fund for these pensions under Rep. Act 610.

The Veterans Association for Good Administration, promptly thanked President Macapagal and hailed his "sincere dedication to the welfare of the common man."

Speaking through Alejandro M. Costales, VAGA national president, the association pledged support of the Administration's five-year socio-economic program.

Meanwhile, Commissioner Sy-Changco recommended the appropriation of P2,598,500 toward the implementation of Rep. Act 1920, increasing the pension of veterans from P50 to P100 a month.

The President mobilized today all relief agencies of the Government to extend immediate assistance to victims of the fire which almost wiped out the poblacion of Rosales, Pangasinan, yesterday afternoon.

The President, in separate directives, told (1) the Social Welfare Administration to rush additional relief supplies to the devastated town; (2) the Armed Forces to assist in the relocation of fire victims to temporary shelters, in maintaining peace and order and in seeing to it that there is no undue spiraling of prices; and (3) the Department of Health to dispatch medical supplies and medical teams, if necessary, to forestall the possible out-break of disease in the locality.

The Chief Executive received this morning a report from SWA Administrator Tecla San Andres Ziga stating that initial relief materials had been sent to the town, consisting of 20 sacks of rice, 10 cases of sardines, 20 sacks of corn meal, 500 pieces of clothing materials, and assorted medicines.

**March 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred today with members of the Philippine panel formed to negotiate with the British government on the Philippine claim to North Borneo.

The unscheduled conference was held at the Veterans Memorial Hospital in Quezon City, where the Chief Executive motored late this morning to visit Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently foreign affairs secretary, who is recuperating from a recent operation.

Present at the conference, aside from the Vice-President, were Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Sen. Raul Manglapus of the Senate foreign relations committee, Rep. Godofredo Ramos of the House foreign affairs committee, and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez.

Back at Malacañang at 11:40 a.m., the President receiving provincial governors and city mayors who consulted him on matters affecting their respective areas.

Among those who met with the Chief Executive were Govs. Benjamin Abubakar of Sulu, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Claro M. Robles of Quezon, Pedro Dizon of Bataan, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon; Mayors Antonio Villegas of Manila and Liberato Reyna of Dagupan, Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental, and Vice-Mayor Ansberto Paredes of Pasay City.

In the course of his conferences with the local officials, the President witnessed, the induction into the Liberal Party, by Gov. Abubakar, of Nacionalista officials in the province of Sulu.

The new LP converts are Deputy Gov. Bonsan Go; Mayors Aminkadra Abubakar of Jolo, S'ahid Abdula of Luuk, Hadji Mahmud of Tunkuil, Pitao Lim Cogayan of Cagayan de Sulu, Yap Lipae of Tandubas, Datu Unding of Patu, Utu Sabuddin of Balimbing and Yahcob Bullang of Timunul; and Vice-Mayor Abdulahilik Salapudin of Sapipao.

Earlier this morning the President had breakfast with Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao and newsmen covering Malacañang.

In the afternoon the President received Guillermo Ramos Uriarte, sub-director of commerce of the Department of Industry and Commerce of Mexico and head of a nine-man trade mission now in the city to confer with local industrialists and businessmen on the expansion of trade between Manila and Acapulco.

With Uriarte was Josue de Benito Lopez, a special envoy of President Adolfo Lopez Mateos, who delivered a letter from the Mexican President to the Chief Executive. They were accompanied in their call on the President by Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez and Minister Carlos Gutierrez Macias of the local Mexican embassy.

The President also received Peter Cargill and James Twining of the World Bank, who paid him a courtesy call.

The two banking officials, who are here on a week-long visit to inspect World Bank-supported projects, informed the Chief Executive that the New York bankers were "very much impressed" by the improved financial position of the country.

Earlier in the evening the President received Dr. John La Due, president of the American College of Cardiology, who arrived in the city recently upon invitation of the Philippine Heart Association to deliver the annual Ricardo Molina lecture and the Guerrero Memorial lecture.

Dr. La Due was accompanied to Malacañang by Drs. Hernando Marlirez and Ramon Abarquez, president and executive committee member, respectively, of the PHA, and Dr. Francisco Tangco, who is the President's personal physician.

The President then met with members of the Senate on legislative matters.

The President directed today the Philippine Veterans Administration to look into a report that leper veterans confined in various sanitariums are not enjoying hospitalization benefits.

The Chief Executive issued the directive to Administrator Alberto A. Villavert following information that leper veterans confined at the Tala Leprosarium in Caloocan City have been excluded from the hospitalization benefits under PVA laws.

He said that he did not see why veterans with less disabling ailments should be receiving hospitalization benefits while leper veterans are not. He said "this is an injustice, and I want it corrected immediately."

**March 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received the heads of the Australian delegates to the 19th annual conference of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, with whom he exchanged views on matters of common interests.

Received by the President were Garfield Barwick, Australian minister for external affairs, and Madame Lakshmi Menon, minister of state for external affairs of India. Barwick called in the morning, while Menon was received by the President in the afternoon.

The President also received this morning UP, President Carlos P. Romulo and Deans Vicente Abad Santos and Deogracias Reyes, who requested that a parcel of land on Padre Faura given by the government to the UP Alumni Association during the Garcia administration be turned over to the university instead.

Romulo, who is scheduled to enplane for the United States on Friday, March 15, to attend educational conferences at Stanford and Philadelphia universities, took the opportunity to say goodbye to the Chief Executive.

Toward noontime the President received a group of Japanese business leaders who called on him to pay their respects.

They were Masami Isano, president of the Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Yoichiro Makita of the Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Shinpei Ikejima of the Bungei Shunju Publication Co., Masashi Takasaki of the Nippon Airplane Co., Susumu Kajita of Kahita & Co., Kazuo Yatsugi of the National Policy Research Association, Takeo Ocubo of the Japanese parliament, and Take-jiro Watanabe and Jadayuki Hirose of the Mitsubishi Real Estate Co.

The Japanese businessmen who arrived in Manila on a private tour last Thursday were accompanied in their call on the Chief Executive by Benigno Toda, Jr., and Sebastian Ugarte of the Philippines Herald.

Also received by the President were NAMARCO General Manager Teofilo Reyes, Sr., and former Ambassador Manuel Nieto.

In the afternoon the President conferred with Rafael Recto and Vicente Jayme, PNB president and vice-president, respectively, on the financing of the Private Development Corporation of the Philippines (PDCP). Recto reported on his recent trip to Washington where he signed a PDCP-PNB-World Bank financing agreement,

Earlier this afternoon the President met with L. C. Eddington, manager of Paul Hardman (Phil.), Inc., whose company won the bid for the construction of the Angat dam.

With Eddington on the call was Filemon Zablan, general manager of the National Power Corporation.

The President also received D. Savkar, head of the Asian department of the International Monetary Fund, who is in the city as an observer in the ECAFE meeting and to confer on monetary matters with officials of the Central Bank. Savkar was accompanied to Malacañang by CB Governor Andres Castillo and Albert Mattera, IMF adviser.

Later this afternoon the President received a group of Indonesian newspapermen covering Foreign Minister Subandrio's five-day visit here. They were Mohammad Nahar of Antara News Agency, Satya Graha of *Suluh Indonesia*, Mahbub Djunaidi of *Duta Masjarakat*, Haetami of *Suara Merdeka*, Suhardy of *Jinar Harapan*, and D. P. Karim of *Warta Bakti*. They were accompanied by Bus Efendi, press attache of the Indonesian embassy.

**March 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received this morning Indonesia's Foreign Minister Raden Subandrio, who called at Malacañang to say goodbye prior to his departure for Jakarta this afternoon.

Subandrio was here for five days during which he held a series of conferences with Philippine officials on the proposed Federation of Malaysia opposed by both the Philippines and Indonesia. The Indonesian Foreign Minister

was accompanied to Malacañang by Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak and Minister Pedro Aragon Angara, protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

After his meeting with Subandrio, President Macapagal met with 38 members of the House of Representatives on such matter as public works projects and local appointments.

In the course of his meeting with the congressmen, the President witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party of seven local Nacionalista.

They were Councilors Antonio V. Lagos and Federico A. de Leon of Lucena City and Arsenic C. Secretario of Dipaculao, Quezon; Councilors Sulpicio Lugod and Antonio Mortis of Gingoog City; and Vice-Mayor Primitivo Abarquez, Jr., of Labason, Zamboanga del Norte, and Miguel Ranillo of Dipolog, same province; City Councilors Lagos and De Leon took their bath of affiliation before Rep. Eladio Caliwara of Quezon, while City Councilors Lugod and Mortis were sworn in by Rep. Vicente B. de Lara of Misamis. Oriental. Vice-Mayor Abarquez and Ranillo took their oath as Liberals before Rep. Alberto Q. Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte.

The President also administered the oath of office to Felisberto S. Rabulari as acting assistant provincial assessor of Zamboanga del Norte.

President Macapagal today asked his brother and private secretary Angel P. Macapagal to “exercise the utmost care so that his routinary acts of assisting the public are not misconstrued.”

The President sent a handwritten note to his brother following published reports that Angel had interceded in the appointment of Constabulary officers in Cavite.

The published reports stated that Brig. Gen. Dominador F. Garcia, PC chief, had turned down a request of Angel Macapagal to replace the provincial commander and a company officer in Cavite with men of his choice.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive received West German Ambassador Friedrich Leopold Freiherr Von Furstenburg, who paid a farewell courtesy call prior to departure tomorrow for Germany. The German Ambassador is retiring after a seven-year tour of duty in the Philippines.

The President also received U.S. Ambassador to Malaya C. Baldwin, who is here as head of the U.S. delegation to the 19th ECAFE conference. He was accompanied to Malacañang by U.S. Ambassador William Stevenson.

Vernon A. Bellman, president of the Mobil Petroleum Co., Inc., also paid a courtesy call to the Chief Executive. Bellman was accompanied to Malacañang by E. W. Lehman, regional vice-president, and H. P. Byrd, president of the local corporation.

Later, the President held his regular weekly press conference.

Immediately after his hour-long meeting with newsmen, the President retired to his study where he conferred with the Presidential Land Reform Committee. The committee is composed of Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes, Program Implementation Agency Director Sixto K. Roxas, Judge Artemio Macalino of the Court of Agrarian Relations, Land Tenure Administrator Jose G. Espino, Code Commissioner Ruperlo G. Martin. Teodoro Locsin, Jeremias V. Montemayor, and Fernando Busuego, Jr.

President Macapagal said today he would soon submit his appointments to Congress as he denied charges he was violating the Constitution by not forwarding them to the Commission on Appointments.

He explained at his weekly press conference that the reason why he had not done so thus far was that he had been shifting the key men in the Administration to find where they could be of greatest use to the nation.

During the press conference, the President also:

1. Confirmed reports that he was planning to visit North Borneo;
2. Announced he had cautioned his brother and private secretary, Angel Macapagal, "to exercise the utmost care so that his routinary acts of assisting the public are not misconstrued;
3. Declined to make further statements on the proposed Federation of Malaysia beyond saying he had not reached an agreement with Indonesia to put up a "common front" against the projected stale; and
4. Said he welcomed the coming visit here of Chinese (Formosa) Vice-president and Premier Chen Cheng and that they would probably discuss land reform.

**March 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal inaugurated "Businessman's Day" at Malacañang this morning receiving 26 groups from various segments of the economy.

Totalling 89 men and women from the business and industrial communities, they took up with the President problems affecting their business ventures or submitted proposals designed to help accelerate the socio-economic development of the country. Some complained of delays in the processing of papers in various government offices.

A delegation of representatives from the raw pearl button and cordage industries requested the President's assistance toward the amendment of an ordinance of the City of Manila which levies one per cent tax on gross sales, local and export, as manufacturer's license fees, payable Quarterly They said they were agreeable to pay the one per cent tax on local sales but not on export sales, in order "to expand and encourage export industries."

Members of the Development Bankers Association led by Delfin Buencamino asked that they be given incentives like those extended to rural banks which enjoy tax exemption privileges.

Another delegation from the Philippine Chamber of Industries led by Hilarion Henares, Jr., PCI president, discussed regional, economic, and cultural collaboration with the Administration, including the problems of smuggling and credit

Officers of the Small Mineral Producers Association led by their president, Jose Robles, informed President Macapagal that they had been trying to work out ways by which government lending institutions could relax regulations on credit assistance to the mining industry. They expressed confidence that given more incentives, they could play a "vital role in the implementation of the Administration's socio-economic program. They said they can help much in the solution of the unemployment problem and in increasing the dollar earnings of the country.

To help accelerate the development of cottage industries in the rural areas, the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines, through its president, Jose Desiderio, petitioned that funds of the National Cottage Industries Development Authority (NACIDA) be coursed through the rural banks.

In offering the President the use of the facilities of the rural banks, Desiderio said that these banks are best equipped for the effective distribution of NACIDA funds for the development of cottage industries and for the effective and speedy accomplishment of the President's socio-economic program.

There were those who came simply to greet the Chief Executive on the opening of "Businessman's Day."

First to be received by the President were M. L. Haider, director of Standard Oil of New Jersey, and W. B. Cleveland, director of ESSO Standard Eastern of New York, who called at Malacañang to pay their respects, They were accompanied by C. A. Larsen, general manager of ESSO Standard Eastern of the Philippines, and A. A. Nareiso of the same company.

President Macapagal had set aside every Thursday as “Businessman’s Day” to afford businessmen an opportunity to air personally their views on individual problems and to raise policy questions. It completes the symbolism of the President’s socio-economic program, in that “Businessman’s Day” deals with the program’s economic phase while “Common Man’s Day”, which is another institution in Malacañang, treats of the social aspect.

**March 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal started the regular weekly “Common ” Man’s Day” as early as 7:30 o’clock this morning so that the numerous callers would not have to wait for him up to early afternoon. The President had expressed concern that many of the callers in the past had to stay up to 2 p.m. before they were able to talk to him.

Some 1,600 men and women from all walks of life consulted the President on various matters, including land problems, expropriation of landed estates, backpay claims, and additional schoolhouses. The President received them singly or in groups in his study and later at the Malacañang social hall up to 12:40 p.m., very much earlier than in previous weeks.

After having lunch and a brief rest, the President, accompanied by the First Lady motored to Baguio for a weekend Lenten retreat at the Sunny side Villa, summerhouse of the Society of the Divine Word.

President Macapagal today directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release the amount of P6 million for the expropriation of the Tatalon Estate in Quezon City. The President issued the order in the course of his weekly meeting with the people at Malacañang,

Among the “Common. Man’s Day” callers was a delegation of about 70 men and women from Tatalon Estate who petitioned the Chief Executive for the immediate release of the amount.

In separate cases acted upon on “Common Man’s Day,” the President granted a request of Mrs. Nicomedes Garcia for reconsideration of the dismissal of her husband, former Justice of the Peace Nicomedes Garcia of Polillo, Quezon; and helped a cripple, Luis Mallare, secure a walking chair.

A delegation from Honeywood Subdivision in Baguio City, headed by Pedro Gondayao petitioned that the lot they occupy in the subdivision be excluded from the Townside Sales Reservation and sold to its present occupants.

An 80-year old woman, Flaviana Cortez Vda. de Dios, implored the President to pardon her son Jose who has been in prison three years. Mrs. de Dios claimed her son was “not the real culprit but was only implicated” in a cattle-rustling case.

Another woman, Pacita del Cosar Vda. de Carreon of Dinalupihan, Bataan, saw the Chief Executive about the case of her son Lirio, who died while working at the Universal Foundry and Machine Shop in Caloocan City some time ago. She said that she has received only P200 out of P1,200 promised her by the shop management because of her son’s death.

The President today expressed disappointment over “arbitrary” cuts made in the budget by the House appropriations committee. He said the proposed slashes would set back essential socio-economic projects, especially those aimed at accelerated agricultural production.

**March 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal entered Sunnyside Villa in Baguio City at 6 o’clock this morning for a two-day spiritual retreat. He was accompanied by his military aide, Capt. Juan Cabrera, who joined senators and businessmen for the Lenten retreat under Rev. Raymond Cough of the Society of Jesus.

The President was with 21 others in prayers and meditation. The Chief Executive was dressed in gray trousers and a green checkered jacket.

Among those in the group are Sens. Ferdinand E. Marcos, Eulogio Balao, Estanislao Fernandez, Oscar Ledesma, and Reseller T. Lim.

The President is scheduled to leave Sunnyside Villa tonight after mass and supper at the Villa. He arrived in Baguio last night to attend the annual Lenten retreat which he has been joining regularly since 1958. He may return to Manila tomorrow evening or early Monday morning.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



## **President's Week in Review: March 17-23, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**March 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was scheduled to leave Baguio for Manila late this evening shortly after checking out of Sunnyside Villa, where he went on a two-day spiritual retreat.

The Chief Executive headed 22 government officials, businessmen, and labor leaders who composed the first group attending Lenten retreat at the Villa under the Society of the Divine Word.

The President left the Villa for the Guest House at 6:30 this evening in his checkered green jacket, accompanied by his junior military aide, 1st Lt. Juan Cabrera, who served as his assistant and security man inside the Villa.

The President said the retreat was “refreshing.” He met newsmen shortly after arrival at the Guest House. Accompanying him were the First Lady and their children, Gloria and Diosdado, Jr.

The President wanted to reach Manila shortly before sunrise tomorrow, as the Macapagal children will attend school tomorrow morning.

**March 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent the whole day today working mostly on state papers, including the final draft of the bill abolishing tenancy.

The President returned to Malacañang with the First Lady and their children about midnight last night after a two-day weekend spiritual retreat at the Sunnyside Villa in Baguio City.

Having cancelled his regular weekly appointment with provincial governors and city mayors, the President closeted himself in his study and buckled down to paper work, stopping only for lunch and a brief siesta.

The President directed today the Presidential Relief Committee headed by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Marino to rush relief aid to Lilio, Laguna, which was hit by fire this afternoon.

The President issued the order upon receipt of a report from Sen. Estanislao Fernandez that the fire still was raging at 7:15 o'clock this evening after gutting half of the town. Lilio is the hometown of Sen. Fernandez.

Secretary Marino immediately asked the Social Welfare Administration to extend relief to victims of the fire.

**March 19.**—THIS morning the President received the 12-man Italian trade mission led by Rep. Mello Grand of the Italian parliament, who paid him a courtesy call.

The Italian group arrived recently upon invitation of President Macapagal during his state visit to Italy last year. The mission represents a cross-section of the Italian economy, its members coming from the Italian parliament, government corporations, and private enterprises.

In their talk with the President the members of the mission said they are here not only to promote trade relations between the Philippines and Italy but also to explore wider avenues of cooperation in the technical and technological fields. Rep. Grand said they would try to identify the fields in which the two countries could successfully engage in trade with each other.

President Macapagal expressed gratification over the desire of the Italian government to expand its trade relations with the Philippines, and the hope that the mission would succeed in its objectives.

The Italian mission was accompanied to Malacañang by Commerce and Industry Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and Italian Ambassador Eugenio Rubino.

Following his meeting with the Italian mission, the President met with provincial and city officials on matters affecting their respective localities. In the course of his conference with the local officials, the Chief Executive witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño of Ramon V. Mitra, Jr., senior technical assistant to Mayor Antonio Villegas.

This afternoon the President received Mariano Alonso y Alonso, captain general of the Legion de Zaragoza of the Spanish Army.

General Alonso called on the Executive following his arrival here Saturday, March 16, for a three-day goodwill visit. He was accompanied to Malacañang by Spanish Ambassador Jaime Alba and Ricardo Padilla, first secretary of the Spanish Embassy.

Alonso, who is one of the highest ranking officers of the Spanish Army, is leaving tonight for his home country.

After receiving General Alonso, the Chief Executive received members of the Senate who took up with him various matters affecting their respective provinces.

Later, the President presided over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

President Macapagal decided today to sit down on the Philippines-Japan treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation pending enactment of legislation to protect Philippine interests.

Malacañang announced the presidential action after a meeting of the Cabinet this afternoon during which the pact, already ratified by the Japanese Diet, was discussed.

The President also created a committee to draft the legislative measures needed before he could submit the treaty for ratification by the Senate. The committee was headed by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs.

The nature of the bills to be drafted were not divulged by Malacañang. It was believed they would be measures calculated to plug loopholes in the treaty through which the Japanese could gain an advantage over Filipinos, especially in business and finance.

Pelaez, chairman of the Cabinet committee on foreign economic policy, reported to the Cabinet on the various aspects of the treaty, which was negotiated by a Philippine panel headed by former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr.

In his letter to former President Garcia, Laurel warned against the flow of Japanese goods into the Philippines which would virtually kill local industries unless legislations are enacted by Congress to safeguard their interests.

It was believed that unless these legislative measures were passed, the treaty would not be submitted by the President for renegotiation.

President Macapagal signed today an executive order creating the Loans and Investment Council, with the Secretary of Finance as chairman.

In his order the President pointed out that the financial institutions of the government “play a focal role in maximizing the use of available resources to support the country’s economic development.” He stressed that “there exists a need for coordinating the investment policies of government financial institutions to enable them to contribute in a more effective manner towards the attainment of the overall targets and priorities set forth in the Five-Year, Integrated Socio-Economic Program.”

Members of the council, in addition to the Secretary of Finance, are the secretary of commerce and industry, the director general of the Program Implementation Agency, the governor of the Central Bank, the chairman of the Development Bank of the Philippines, the president of the Philippine National Bank, the general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, and the administrator of the Social Security System.

The President granted today a new 30-day reprieve to Mauricio Navarro y Ordillo, who had been sentenced to death for robbery with homicide.

The Chief Executive issued the stay of execution—the third granted Navarro thus far—upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole. The new reprieve will expire on April 19, 1963.

**March 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal signed today an administrative order creating a committee to study a general readjustment of salaries of government officials.

In issuing the administrative order, the President noted that “confusing and in many cases unjust disparity of salaries among officials is evident in the three branches of the government”

He named Executive Secretary Salvador L. Marino as chairman of the new committee, with Budget Commissioner Sychangco, Auditor General Pedro M. Gimenez, Administrator Manuel Cuenco of the Office of Economic Coordination and a representative each of the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court as members.

The committee will make a systematic and realistic study of the existing salary scales of government officials for the preparation of corrective legislative measures and coordination of pending bills on the matter.

The readjustment of salary scales will affect all officials in the government and its agencies and instrumentalities, including government-owned or controlled corporations.

At the same time, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sychangco announced that government employees will receive two separate salary increases starting July 1, upon approval of the 1963-64 budget.

Budget Commissioner Sychangco made the announcement of forthcoming raises after an assurance came from Sen. Gil J. Puyat (N) that the budgetary outlays for salary increases, as proposed by President Macapagal, would not be touched at all by the Senate finance committee.

Puyat gave the assurance of NP approval of the proposed pay hikes in the course of a committee hearing on the P1.9 billion budget measure, at which Sychangco and Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., defended the bill.

Sychangco said some P70 million had been set aside by the Administration and included in the appropriation bill upon instruction of President Macapagal to cover the salary increases of some 300,000 national government employees.

The amount would cover the following pay hikes: (1) P32.7 million to implement by one step the WAPCO pay plan. This would mean an automatic salary increase of five per cent as found in the WAPCO pay range plan; and (2) P32.2 million as additional salary increases, which would be implemented at graduated scales in proportion to the worker's present rate.

Thus, Sychangco said, government employees would be receiving two salary increases starting July 1.

He said that a worker who would receive an increase of five per cent under the WAPCO plan, but whose increase would be less than P10, would receive an automatic increase of P10. In addition to this, he added, the same worker would get an additional increase to be covered by the P32.3 million outlay.

The President issued today an executive order fixing the office hours in the government service during the hot season from April 1 to June 15.

Beginning April 1, from Monday to Friday, the office hours in all public office including provincial, city and municipal government shall be from 7:30 o'clock in the morning to 12:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

The provisions of the executive order, however, shall not apply to government offices in the City of Baguio, whether national, provincial, or municipal.

The law provides for the reduction of the period of work in public offices during summer to five continuous hours but at the same time leaves the observance thereof to the discretion of heads of departments, bureaus, and offices subject to the requirements of the service.

This afternoon President Macapagal received his state guest from Nationalist China, Vice-President and concurrently Premier Chen Cheng, who arrived at the head of a 24-man entourage.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria, motored to the Manila International Airport 10 minutes before the scheduled arrival of Vice-President Chen, who landed at exactly 4 o'clock this afternoon aboard his *Chung Mei* four-engine plane.

"It is good to see you again," the President greeted his state guest who came with Mrs. Chen.

President Macapagal introduced Vice-President Chen to the high government and diplomatic officials who turned out at the MIA to give the state visitor a rousing welcome.

The President and Vice-President Chen rode together in the No. 1 car to Malacañang. The Chens will stay in Malacañang during their three-day state visit.

Earlier in the afternoon, while the President was leaving at the airport, he was informed of the presence of a delegation of strikers at the Feati University which marched to Malacañang to seek the President's intervention in their longdrawn out walkout.

Upon his return to the Palace, he immediately summoned Executive Secretary Salvador L. Marino to force a decision on the case.

This evening the President and Mrs. Macapagal gave a state dinner in honor of visiting Vice-President and Madame Cheng at Malacañang.

The guest list includes the official suite of Vice-President Chen, former President and Mrs. Garcia, Mrs. Trinidad de Leon Roxas. Mrs. Esperanza Osmeña, Speaker and Mrs. Cornelio T. Villareal, Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon, members of the diplomatic corps and their ladies, members of the Cabinet and their ladies, Sen. Raul Manglapus, Rep. Godofredo Ramos, Ambassador and Mrs. Narciso Ramos. Lt. Gen. Alfredo M. Santos, Foreign Undersecretary and Mrs. Salvador P. Lopez. Defense Undersecretary Alberto de Joya, Mrs. Irinea Macaraeg, Miss Gloria Macapagal, Arturo Macapagal, and Mr. and Mrs. Agustin Salgado. Jr.

**March 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met with numerous businessmen, mostly small-time ones, on the second regular weekly "Businessmen's Day" in Malacañang today. Aided by Assistant Executive Secretary Jovito Lorenzo, the President conferred in private with his callers in his study from 10:30 o'clock in the morning up to 12 noon.

Earlier, the President received DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, who called at Malacañang before leaving for Washington next week to sign an agreement with the Import-Export Bank guaranteeing a loan in the amount of \$5 million of the Philippine Iron Mines, which has been approved by the DBP board of governors.

In the afternoon the President received W. S. Hamilton, E. A. Shaw and Peter Barnett of the Australian Broadcasting Commission and Radio Australia, who paid him a courtesy call. They arrived recently in the course of a two-week tour of Asian countries. They were accompanied in their call on the Chief Executive by Press Secretary Leoncio R Paruñgao, Jr.

The President then met with Chairman Manuel Rojas of the Manila Hotel board of directors on the proposed sale of the hotel to private entrepreneurs. Rojas informed the Chief Executive that the board had approved a resolution calling for the sale of the hotel through public bidding in line with the free enterprise policy of the Administration.

The President also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño of Vice-Mayor Eduardo Dian of Sta. Cruz, Davao.

The affiliation of Dian with the majority party completely placed the Davao town in Liberal hands. Dian was accompanied to Malacañang by Sta. Cruz Mayor Dominador Bendigo.

Typical of the small businessman was Wenceslao Azaña of Legaspo City, who called on the President to consult him not only on matters affecting rural businessmen but also on local problems which have a direct effect on business in general.

Azaña deplored the shortage in fish supply and of work animals because of some flaws in rules and regulations or the absence of an efficient and effective way of enforcing them. He also suggested that ways be devised to put a stop to petty thieveries of farmers' agricultural produce and to make available coconut seedlings from the Philippine Coconut Administration (PHILCOA) to small coconut planters.

Among the other callers this morning were Rufino Diman and officers of the Bus Operators Association of the Philippines (BOAP) led by their president, Col. Geminiano F. Yabut. Diman exchanged views with the President on vital economic measures, while the BOAP officials discussed with the Chief Executive the cut-throat competition in the transportation business and the high cost of the transportation business.

Yabut suggested that new applications for public transportation licenses should be held in abeyance pending an authoritative determination of the areas which are "saturated" with passenger buses and jeepneys. Claiming that the Philippine fare rate is the lowest in the world, the BOAP asked for its readjustment "to make the tariff more realistic" in relation to the cost of running a transportation firm.

Yabut also voiced the problems of small-time transportation businessmen who, having only one or two public utility buses to operate, find it hard to compete with the bigger ones like the Manila Railroad Company.

President Macapagal today certified to the Court of Industrial Relations for compulsory arbitration the labor dispute between the management and the faculty members of the FEATI university. The President requested the CIR "to take immediate appropriate steps in the exercise of its powers under the law."

In a letter signed by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Marino "by authority of the President," it was pointed out that "continued disruption in the operations of the university will necessarily prejudice the thousands of students, particularly those who expect to graduate this month."

The dispute has disrupted FEATI operations for the last five weeks. The strike, first by the faculty members and then joined later by the students, was staged before the students could take their final examinations.

The certification letter was issued after a conference this morning among the President, the Executive Secretary, Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes, Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag and Education Secretary Alejandro Roces.

**March 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today assured employees of the Social Security System that he would look into their complaints against the government corporation.

Some 800 employees of the government insurance firm availed themselves of the regular weekly “Common Man’s Day” in Malacañang to see the President personally and voice their disappointment over the alleged failure of the SSS to act on their proposals and demands.

Led by Union President Alfredo N. Fajardo, the employees said that the SSS had been sitting on their demands and proposals for a better deal” which they submitted to the system’s three-man committee on labor matters last month.

A record-breaking crowd of 2,645 converged upon Malacañang to consult the Chief Executive on various problems.

Assisted by the First Lady and Palace Assistants the President received all of the callers in his study and in the social hall from 8 o clock in the morning up to 1 p.m.

Mrs. Monica Garcia Ablin of Quezon City requested legal assistance in the case of her 14-year old daughter, Luzviminda, who was criminally attacked some time ago. Mrs. Ablin said that Luzviminda joined a picnic and. was attacked by three men when her two girl companions left her behind

A delegation of 20 officers and members of the Ilocos Sur-Abra Federation of Facomas, Inc., petitioned for complete and full payment of tobacco delivered to the ACCFA since 1959. Led by Higinio Farinas, president-chairman of the federation, they also asked the assistance of the Administration in promoting the tobacco industry and in solving their financial problems.

Another delegation from the Association of Farmers of Guimba, Cuyapo, and Nampicuan, Nueva Ecija, which claims a membership of 2,000, conveyed to the President the association’s support of his land reform program, and their “heartfelt gratitude” for the President’s solicitude for the farmers’ welfare.

Mrs. Francisca Cera of Manila was in tears when she related to President Macapagal how her son Carlos, a dumb, had been apprehended for the second time for violating the ban against cigarette vendors on the city sidewalks. She, together with Carlos’ wife and child, has nothing to eat, she said, much less money to bail out their only breadwinner from the city jail.

In the afternoon the President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to Fort Wm. McKinley where he was guest of honor and speaker at ceremonies marking the 66th anniversary of the founding of the Philippine Army. A parade and review was held in honor of the Chief Executive by a composite battalion of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

During the program the President witnessed military demonstrations in combat judo by men from the Third Military Area, para-jump by the 11th Special Forces, manual of arms by Army trainees, and area support communications by the First Infantry Division, which included the erection of a 26-foot aluminum bridge and its subsequent crossing by two M-1 tanks.

Back at Malacañang in the evening, the President and the First Lady prepared and then left for Vice-President Chen’s dinner at the Manila Hotel.

The President today congratulated Filipino boxer Roberto Cruz for winning the world junior welterweight crown. Cruz scored a first-round knockout over Raymundo (Battling) Torres of Mexico at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles to win the vacant world junior welterweight championship

The President, in a cablegram to Cruz, said the impressive victory “has bolstered the prestige of our country in the field of sports.”

**March 23.**—THIS morning the President met with Vice-President Chen Cheng of Nationalist China in a private breakfast in Malacañang.

With them were the First Lady and Mrs. Chen and other members of the official entourage of the Nationalist Chinese Vice-President.

The President, it was learned, reiterated his acceptance “in principle” of the invitation of President Chiang Kai-shek for a state visit to Taiwan.

From the breakfast conference, the President retired to his bedroom where he waited for his house guest, Vice-President Chen, who presided over a press conference at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

President and Mrs. Macapagal accompanied Vice-President and Mrs. Chen to the Manila International Airport.

The Chief Executive led top government officials and a large section of the Chinese community in the city to give Vice-President Chen and members of his party a rousing send-off.

From the airport, the President and the First Lady motored back to Malacañang, after which they proceeded to the Manila Hotel to address the Manufacturers and Producers Convention.

The President also received Korean Yong Shik Kim, who is returning to Seoul for reassignment after completing his tour of duty in the Philippines.

President Macapagal left this afternoon for Baguio City, where he will address the commencement exercises of the Philippine Military Academy tomorrow afternoon.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, left Malacañang shortly before 4 o'clock. They are expected in the Pines City at 8 this evening.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: March 24-30, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**March 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Baguio City this morning. Wearied by the long drive from Manila, he rested in the Guest House.

After lunch he worked on the speech which he delivered later in the afternoon before 75 graduates of the Philippine Military Academy.

The Chief Executive was given full military honors upon arriving at the PMA. He was accompanied by the First Lady, who laid the cornerstone of the proposed Academy Hospital.

The President congratulated the new graduates led by topnotcher Eckwook Solomon. From the Academy, the President returned to the Guest House, where he was scheduled to meet Malacañang newsmen who accompanied him to Buguio.

**March 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal this afternoon visited the scene of the recent P5 million fire in Sampaloc and acted to provide housing to those who had been rendered homeless.

Some of the victims called on him during Common Man's Day at Malacañang last Friday and urged him to put up a tenement at the fire scene for the hundreds who lost their homes.

The Chief Executive, after an ocular survey, decided instead to obtain a census of the fire victims for accommodation in the multi-storey tenement houses under construction in Manila and Makati. He decided on this alter native after finding out that the four-hectare fire area belonged to so many different persons, making it rather impractical for the government to put up a lowcost housing project there. The President said that it would be prohibitive to construct a tenement in the area.

The Chief Executive left Malacañang for the fire scene this afternoon, accompanied by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria. The First Couple distributed "New Era" T-shirts to children in the area.

Before proceeding to the fire scene, the First Couple visited Rep. Venancio Ziga at the University of Santo Toinas Hospital. Ziga is recuperating in the hospital from a gall bladder operation.

While in the hospital the President witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party of Albay Governor Jose D. Esteves and Mayor Carlos Paua of Manito town of that province.

From the UST Hospital the President motored to V. Luna General Hospital to visit Col. Victor Dizon, Malacañang senior aide, who had been confined there since he suffered a stroke.

Doctors of the Army hospital informed the First Couple that Col. Dizon was recovering rapidly.

The President returned early this morning from Baguio City, where he addressed the graduates of the Philippine Military Academy.

**March 26.**—THIS day President Macapagal motored to Bulacan where he visited Pandi and Marilao in the course of his program of regionalizing Malacañang. He spoke at both towns.

Accompanied by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria, the President visited Pandi to witness the turnover of a spillway bridge in the barrio of Mapulang Lupa, a project built under the auspices of the Presidential Assistant on" Community Development (PACD). The First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon at the turnover ceremonies.



Present at the ceremonies were PACD Chief Cesar C. Climaco, Gov. Tomas Martin, Vice-Gov. Jose Villarama, Pandi Mayor Valeriano O. Domingo, and other town officials.

Later the President motored to Marilao where he addressed a gathering of Liberal Party leaders.

The First Couple and Gloria left Malacañang at 9 a.m. They were back at Malacañang shortly before 2 p.m.

This afternoon the Chief Executive received at Malacañang 54 provincial, city, and municipal officials who took up with him matters affecting their respective localities.

The President also received Pablo Lorenzo, chairman of the Development Bank of the Philippines, who is leaving tomorrow for Washington.

While in the United States, Lorenzo will meet with Export-Import Bank officials on a \$15 million loan the DBP is guaranteeing for the Philippine Iron Mines. The DBP is also granting a 5 million-peso loan to the mining firm for its expansion program.

The President signed today a proclamation setting aside Bonuan Beach in Dagupan City as a city park. The proclamation was signed in the presence of Dagupan City Mayor Liberato LI. Reyna.

**March 27.**—THE President conferred this morning with 34 members of Congress on matters which have to do with their respective districts.

In the course of his meeting with the congressmen, the President witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Speaker Coinelio T. Villareal of eight opposition leaders from Mountain Province headed by Pudtol Mayor Juan Madriaga.

The President inducted this morning Assistant Executive Secretary Jovito Lorenzo as acting chairman of the Development Bank of the Philippines. Lorenzo will hold the position in the absence of DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, who left for Washington this afternoon to sign an agreement with the Exportation Bank guaranteeing a \$5-million loan to the Philippine Iron Mines.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive met with six Liberal senators on legislative matters.

Before his meeting with the senators, the President received Spanish Ambassador, and Mrs. Jaime Alba, who paid him a farewell call. Ambassador Alba is leaving tomorrow afternoon for home enroute to Brazil where he has been reassigned.

Later in the afternoon the President presided over his regular weekly press conference.

At his weekly press conference President Macapagal defended the appointment of his brother, Angel, as general manager of the People's Home-site and Housing Corporation.

"I prefer that, he (Angel) continue in public service where he will be under my direct supervision than resign from the government and engage in influence peddling activities," the President said.

At the same press conference, the President unleashed his strongest attack against Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, chairman of the Senate committee on foreign relations, and warned him and those opposing the Philippine claim to North Borneo:

"If we fail in this claim, posterity will condemn those who did not support it, particularly those who contributed to the defeat of this claim."

The President also (1) defended the appointment of former Minister Jose Fornier as public service commissioner from criticisms that the appointee was charged administratively for his actuations when he was consul general in the Philippine consulate in Hongkong and (2) stated he is going over a revenue program submitted to him by the Joint Legislative-Executive Tax Commission, before submitting it to Congress.

President Macapagal said that Angel was already in the government service when he took over Malacañang. "Angel has always been my private secretary," he said.

The President stressed that "my brother is not an influence peddler." He pointed out that if his brother would resign from the government he may indulge in influence peddling acts.

But the President unleashed his strongest attack against Nacionalista Sen. Sumulong, who recently scored the Philippine claim to North Borneo.

He branded Sumulong's charges as "flimsy, paradoxical, and even ridiculous."

He belied Sumulong's charge that he was not consulted as chairman of Senate foreign relations committee on the projected plan of the Philip pines to present its claim over North Borneo.

The President told newsmen that Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs Emmanuel Pelaez and Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Salvador P. Lopez consulted Sumulong before the Philippines presented its claim to North Borneo.

"If Sumulong meant that we did not consult him because we did not adopt his views, then we did not consult him." For certainly, he added, "we consulted Sen. Sumulong."

The President also said that every claim has two sides. He accused Sumulong of taking the side of Britain and Malaya for opposing the Philippine claim.

"The essential question," President Macapagal pointed out, "is whether a representative of the people will take the sides of his country or that of the other country."

He said the members of the House of Representatives and his administration have taken the side of the Philippines. "Sumulong has taken the side of Britain and Malaya," he pointed out.

**March 28.**—THIS morning President Macapagal received some 60 big and small businessmen who discussed with him matters concerning their respective enterprises.

Assisted by Assistant Executive Secretary and concurrently acting DBP Chairman Jovino Lorenzo, the Chief Executive received his callers from 8:20 o'clock up to 10 o'clock this morning.

The President also received U.S. Ambassador William Stevenson who arranged an appointment in behalf of General Curtis LeMay, chief of staff of the U.S. Airforce. He is arriving on April 8.

At a little past 10, the President, accompanied by the First Lady, left Malacañang for Laguna where he inaugurated work on a P500.000 project to cement the Cabuyao-Calamba road.

The President also visited several EEA projects, particularly the circumferential road under construction around the Sampaloc Lake. He also spoke before a public rally held at Lilio in connection with the celebration of the 53rd birthday anniversary of Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, who was born in that town.

The First Couple returned to Malacañang late in the afternoon.

The President today issued a proclamation declaring April 2 a special holiday in the provinces of Bulacan and Bataan to commemorate the date of Francisco Balagtas, prince of Filipino poets.

Balagtas was born in Paňginay, Bigaa, Bulacan on April 2, 1788. He spent most of his life in Orion, Bataan. where he died on February 20, 1862.

In issuing the proclamation the President said “it is fitting and proper that the people of Bulacan Balag’as’ birthplace, and Bataan. where he lived and died, be given full opportunity to celebrate his birthday.”

**March 29.**—THE Chief Executive received a total of 2,314 “Common Man’s Day” callers at Malacaňang Palace today.

The presidential callers were received singly or in groups by the Chief Executive in his study and in the social hall from 8 o’clock in the morning to 1:45 o’clock in the afternoon. The President was assisted by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria, and by Malacaňang assistants.

In the course of his meeting with the general public, the Chief Executive administered the oath of office to the following newly-elected officers of the Confederation of Government Employees Organizations: Jose Erestain, president; Francisco Rivera, Narciso Martinez, and Juan Coloma, vice-presidents; Salvador Pacis, secretary-general; Felix Fernandez, public relations officer; Virginia Valdez, auditor; Tomas Moroca, treasurer; Ricardo Castro, Pablo Garcia, Jose Castañeda, Miguela Solis, and Severa Racho, members of the board of directors; and Jose Jaimero, secretary of the board.

In the evening the President motored to the Aurora A. Quezon Elementary School in Malate, Manila, where he was guest speaker and inducting officer at the swearing-in of officers of the Manila Federation of Parent-Teacher Association, Inc.

Inducted by the Chief Executive were Magdaleno L. Petrasanta, president; Dominador Cendaña, executive vice-president; Magtangol Juane, vice-president for the first district; Francisco Magalonzo, vice-president for the second district; Ernesto Atienza, vice-president for the third district; Faustino Carreon, vice-president for the fourth district; Veil Santos, executive secretary; Generoso Madrigal, treasurer; Reynaldo Maglaya, auditor; and Pioquinto Gutierrez, public relations officer.

The President was introduced by Rep. Justo Albert of Manila’s fourth district. Mayor Antonio Villegas delivered the greetings.

President Macapagal has declared Saturday, April 13, a special public holiday.

The President in a proclamation said that April 13 “may be declared a special public holiday without prejudice to the public interests.”

The day falls in-between two legal holidays: April 12, which is Good Friday, and April 14. Easter Sunday.

This means there will be four successive holidays: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday.

April 9, Bataan Day, is also a legal holiday, April 8, Monday, and April 10, Wednesday, although sandwiched between holidays remain official working days.

**March 30.**—THIS morning the President and the First Lady were honor guests at the opening of the National Home Industries Trade Fair and Exposition at the Soriano Market on Recto Avenue. Mrs. Macapagal cut the ceremonial ribbon which signalled the opening of the fair to the general public.

Shortly thereafter the President and the First Lady toured the stalls or booths displaying an array of local products, including homemade kerosene stoves, decorative frames and shells, handbags, home-woven blankets, and towels from the Ilocos and footwears. In the course of the tour the President exchanged views with the display-owners on the manufacturing and financing aspects of home industries.

From the fair, the President motored along Dewey Boulevard, returning to Malacañang shortly before noon.

President Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker this evening at the Second Nationwide Coconut Conference at the Philamlife auditorium on United Nations Avenue.

During the dinner given in his honor the President was presented by the United Philippine Coconut Association (UPCA) with a plaque of merit "in testimony of his all-consuming efforts to alleviate the plight of the common man and of his personal interest in the problems, growth, and development of the coconut industry."

Before addressing the delegation to the conference, the President inducted the following new UPCA officers: Juan S. Alano, chairman of the board; Domingo C. Abadilla, president; Amado Dy, vice-president; Maria Clara L. Lobregat, treasurer; and Santiago Cua, secretary.

President Macapagal pledged in his speech the Administration's full support of the coconut industry which he observed "has not been given the attention it deserves."

The President said that because he believed that the industry has been neglected, "I pledge the full support of my administration to the needs and problems of the coconut industry."

He observed that there was a vast amount of unfinished work of improvement to be done in order to put the industry in a better competitive position.

The President said that while the Government would do its share to assist the industry to improve overall productivity, the work of improvement must be done by the planters themselves.

He said that the Philippine Coconut Administration has been instructed to carry out intensive research into ways and means of raising the productivity of our coconut palms, "but production will not increase if the very persons interested in the industry, like the farmers, marketers, and others, will not apply the methods recommended by experts of the industry."

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: March 31- April 6, 1963

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**March 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal motored to his home province of Pampanga today to inaugurate a health center named after his late mother, Romana Pangan, in Gutad, Floridablanca, and the NACIDA-EEA Central Luzon regional offices in Lubao.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria, left Malacañang at 8 o'clock this morning and were met at the Bulacan-Pampanga highway boundary by a big crowd headed by Pampanga Gov. Francisco Nopomuccno and Rep. Juanita Nepomuceno. Upon arrival in Gutad, a *Te Deum* was sung in honor of the First Couple at the barrio chapel.

Mrs. Macapagal cut the ceremonial ribbon inaugurating the barrio health center. Assisting her were the First Couple's daughter, Gloria, the President's aunt, Mrs. Angela Pangan Flores, and Rep. Juanita Nepomuceno.

After the inauguration ceremonies the President proceeded to the adjacent barrio of San Roque, where he showed members of his Cabinet the creek where he used to bathe his father's carabaos and the ricefields where he caught frogs at nights.

From San Roque, the President motored to Lubao for the inauguration of the NACIDA-EEA Central Luzon regional offices where the First Lady also officiated at the ribbon-cutting ceremonies.

After partaking *merienda* offered by NACIDA Administrator Jovito Rivera, the President motored back to Manila, arriving at Malacañang at 4:30 p.m.

**April 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal motored to the Manila International Airport this afternoon to welcome Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman, who arrived at the head of the Malayan delegation to the second meeting of the ASA ministers of foreign affairs. The meeting will be held at the National Science Development Board pavilion on Herran Street on April 24.

Arriving at the airport shortly before 3 p.m., the President was accorded full military honors, including a 21-gun salute. As he inspected the guard of honor made up of units from the Army, Constabulary, Navy, and Air Force, the KLM plane. Flight SG1, bearing the Tunku and members of his party landed and taxied to the site of the ceremonies.

The President shook hands with the Tunku at the foot of the plane's ramp. The Tunku, in turn, introduced to the President members of his delegation who were following him down the ramp.

After acknowledging the raffles and flourishes offered by the honor guard, and after shaking hands with members of the diplomatic corps, members of the Cabinet, and Congress leaders present at the airport, the President and the Tunku boarded a car and headed a long motorcade to Malacañang.

The two heads of states entered the Malacañang grounds amid the blare of bugles. A contingent of the Presidential Guard Battalion lined both sides of the driveway and stood at present arms as the presidential car passed.

The President escorted his visitors up the main stairs of the Palace. He introduced the Prime Minister to the First Lady, who met them at the head of the stairway.

After signing the Palace register and having brief refreshments in the music room, the Tunku was shown to his room in the Palace by the President and the First Lady.

The Tunku will be a house guest at the Palace during his four-day stay in Manila. He was assigned the room formerly occupied by Presidents Quirino and Magsaysay at the east wing of the Palace.

At 5:30 p.m. the President and the First Lady were guests of honor at the Inauguration of the Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation on Buendia Street, Makati, Rizal.

This morning the President met with provincial and city officials on various matters.

Those who conferred with the Chief Executive were Govs. Democrito O. Plaza of Agusan, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, Dominador S. Asis of Camarines Norte, Telesforo Paredes of Palawan. Claro M. Robles of Quezon, Pedro R. Dizon of Bataan, Lope Damasco of Bukidnon, Felicísimo San Luis of Laguna, Corazon Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Manuel Barretts of Zambales, and Javier Ariosia of Zamboanga del Sur;

Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental; City Mayors Liberate LI. Reyna of Dagupan and Camilo Cabili of Iligan; and Councilor Juan Baluyut of Manila.

The President also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Marinduque ex-Gov. Cesar Nepomuceno of the following Nacionalista officials of Boac: Vice-Mayor Salvador B. Jamilln, Councilors Rainerio Labay, Candido Buñag, Juan Livelo, Alvaro Janda. Montano Monteagudo and Clemente Montalan; and Municipal Secretary Ricardo J. Garcia.

This evening the President congratulated the Philippine team on its “impressive” victory over New Zealand in the Eastern Zone Davis Cup matches at the Rizal Memorial Open Arena.

In a wire to Alberto Quiros del Rio, captain of the Philippine team, the Chief Executive specially commended Felicísimo Ampon, “a truly great player,” Johnny Jose, and Raymundo Deyro.

The President this day ordered the deportation of five alien businessmen “whose presence in the Philippines is a menace to the peace and safety of the community.”

Ordered deported to their respective countries as “undesirable aliens” were: (1) Wadhmal Dalamal of India: (2) Ramchand Dayaram, India: (3) T. Tourmal, India: (4) Kishu Dalamal of the United Kingdom: and (5) Morris Wilson of the United States.

Their expulsion was recommended by the Deportation Board, which found them guilty of conspiring to commit irregularities and violate Central Bank regulations, especificaly, overpricing and undershipment of imports, misutilization of quota for raw materials, failure to comply with conditions of the Monetary Board, and misrepresentation of factory operations.

The irregularities and violations were allegedly committed by Wadhmal Dalamal as president and general manager of the Roxas Kalaw Textile Mills, Inc.; Morris Wilson as its vice-president: Ramchand Dayaram as co-manager: Kishu Dalamal as manager of the Indian Commercial Company of Manila: and T. Tourmal as an employee of India Traders, also of Manila.

The President ordered the arrest of the traders and their delivery to the commissioner of immigration, who will take steps to deport them by the first available transportation and to exclude them from the Philippines thereafter.

**April 2.**—THIS morning the President had a breakfast conference with majority and opposition leaders on foreign policy matters. Present at the bipartisan consultation meeting were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez: Sens. Raul Manglapus, Lorenzo Sumulong. Estanislao Fernandez, Arturo Tolentino, and Gil Puyat; National Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.; Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag; Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez; and Reps. Godofredo Ramos of Aklan, Ramon Mitra of Mt. Province, and Jovito Salonga of Rizal.

Then the Chief Executive received members of the delegations from Malaya and Thailand who paid him a courtesy call before proceeding to the NSDB pavilion for the opening session.

Heading the delegations were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently foreign affairs secretary of the Philippines, Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaya, and Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman of Thailand.

The President also received Philippine Ambassador to South Vietnam Modesto Farolan, who delivered to the Chief Executive personal messages from Indonesian President Achmed Sukarno and President Ngo Dinh Diem of South Vietnam.

Farolan was an official guest of the Indonesian government and of the recent 12th conference of the Pacific Area Travel Association (PATA) of which the Philippines is a member.

Towards noon the President conferred on fiscal matters with Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, Presidential Assistant on Public Works Manuel Feliciano, and Monetary Board Member Armnd Fabella.

He also received Rep. Justo Albert of Manila and Paul B. Edwards, resident representative of the UNICEF, who took up with him ways by which the UN agency can be of assistance in the government's social projects; such as, sanitation, etc.

Other callers this morning were Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces and MVO Administrator Adolfo Celera.

President Macapagal honored at dinner this evening local and foreign delegates to the three-day second meeting of ministers of foreign affairs of the Association of Southeast Asia (ASA), which started this morning at the National Science Development Board pavilion.

After dinner with the delegates to the ASA conference, the President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to Baguio, where he is to address a conference of government auditors tomorrow.

**April 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today pledged the support of his administration in any move to make the General Auditing Office (GAO) truly independent and effective.

Addressing the second national convention of government auditors at the Pines Hotel in Baguio City this morning, the President also urged that continuing efforts he exerted to bring sound business practices in government auditing "to fit them to the demands of our developing nation."

The President said that any move to strengthen further the GAO is a healthy sign and signifies a determination to make it better equipped to carry on its tasks more effectively.

Towards this end, he said, his administration supports an amendment to the Constitution which would clarify the specific power of the auditor in the examination and audit of expenditures of public funds.

The Chief Executive also said that he is in favor of a Constitutional amendment whereby appeals from decisions of the Auditor General should be addressed to a court of record instead of to the President.

The President said that auditing procedures should be improved to keep them abreast of the times, referring specifically to the shifting of emphasis from the GAO's role of auditing as a means of detecting frauds or irregularities to a positive one providing heads of agencies more complete managerial tools for the accomplishment of their work programs through adequate systems of internal control, performance evaluation, and financial reporting.

The President was introduced by Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, who pledged the support of government auditors to the Administration's socio-economic program and its drive for moral regeneration.

Theme of the five-day convention is "The Role of Government Auditors in the Implementation of the Integrated Five-Year Socio-Economic Development Program."

It was the first time that a convention of government auditors was addressed by the President of the country.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President arrived in Baguio at 2:30 o'clock this morning after a four-hour motor trip from Manila.

The Chief Executive left at 1 o'clock this afternoon for Manila.

The President today issued a proclamation extending up to April 30 the 16th annual fund campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross.

In a previous proclamation, the President set aside the period from January 15 to March 31, 1963, for a PNRC fund drive so that the agency could carry on its humanitarian services.

The Chief Executive stressed the need for extending the fund campaign because of crop failures caused by recent floods and other calamities.

**April 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred at breakfast this morning with Malaya's Premier and Foreign Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman on matters affecting their two countries.

With the two heads of state during their talk were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently foreign affairs secretary, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez, Malaya's Minister of Agriculture Mohamed Khir Johari, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs Secretary Mohammad Ghazali bin Shafie.

After his conference with the Malayan leader the President met with his "Common Man's Day" assistants on better ways of attending to the general public who call at Malacañang every Friday.

The Chief Executive then received members of the business community who saw him on problems affecting their ventures.

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady motored to Parañaque, Rizal, where he officiated at the unveiling of the cornerstone of the town's P1 million municipal hall.

Leaving Malacañang at 4:15 p.m., they were met at the Parañaque-Pasay City boundary by a big crowd led by Mayor Eleuterio de Loon.

The First Couple were back at Malacañang early in the evening.

After a brief rest the President and the First Lady motored to the Manila Hotel, where dinner was tendered in their honor by Malaya's Premier and Foreign Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman.

**April 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received more than 2 000 callers during his regular weekly "Common Man's Day" at Malacañang today. He received visitors continuously from 10:30 am to 5 p.m.

The President previously set his appointment with the common man from 1 to 5 p.m. today in view of the scheduled departure of Premier Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaya, who had been house guest at the Palace during his four-day stay in Manila.



As early as 7 a.m., however, people started to gather in the Malacañang grounds, apparently unaware of the change in schedule which had been announced extensively in the newspapers and the radio

About 11 a.m., the President took time out from his “Common Man’s Day” tasks to hear mass at the Palace chapel with their daughter Gloria, who was observing her 16th birthday. Also at the mass were Mrs. Macapagal, sons Arturo and Diosdado, Jr., and Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg, mother of the First Lady.

After the mass the President and the First Lady hurried back to the social hall and resumed receiving callers.

Earlier this morning, the President had breakfast with the Tunku and Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman of Thailand. Also at the breakfast were Mrs. Macapagal, Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, and the President’s children, Gloria and Diosdado, Jr.

Shortly after 9 a.m. the President rode with his guests to the Manila International Airport. They were returning home from the second meeting of ASA foreign ministers in Manila.

After the departure ceremonies the Chief Executive returned promptly to Malacañang and started receiving callers at 10:30 a.m.

In a desire to attend to all those who came to see him, the President did not take time out for lunch. He took a cup of soup and ate several sandwiches served him by Mrs. Macapagal as he talked with his visitors.

In the afternoon he received Sen. Ferdinand Marcos, who called to inform him of the reorganization of the upper chamber of Congress and his election finally as Senate President. He was accompanied to the Palace by Sens. Estanislao Fernandez, Gaudencio Antonino, and Eulogio Balao.

The President directed today Solicitor General Arturo Alafriz to take the necessary steps to solve once and for all the problems of the tenants in the Tatalon Estate.

The Chief Executive issued the order when some 40 officers and members of the association of tenants residing in the estate saw him anew this afternoon during “Common Man’s Day” in Malacañang.

Narciso Reyes and Mrs. Jacinta Lera, barrio vice lieutenant and treasurer of the association, respectively, informed the President that the NAWASA main which supplies the area with water had been “intentionally bulldozed by men of the owners of the estate.”

They also informed the President that a certain Honorio Torres was constructing a concrete building right in the middle of the AIB Street, thus “virtually isolating the area from the outside.”

President Macapagal proclaimed April 30 as Women’s Rights Day, it was announced by Malacañang today.

The Chief Executive issued the proclamation “in order that the people may know and appreciate the important rule which is being played by women in the economic, social, and political progress of the nation.

**April 6.**—THE President addressed today the Liberal Party convention held at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club in Mandaluyong, Rizal, to nominate senatorial candidates in the coming elections.

The Chief Executive exhorted the people to junk the Nacionalista Party in November, saying “it is a party of the past that is only fit to fade away” while the Liberal Party, because of its dedicated and progressive leadership, is “the party of the present and the future.”

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, arrived at the convention hall about 11:15 a.m.

Some 600 delegates to the convention repeatedly applauded and cheered the Chief Executive as he delivered his fighting speech.

In the afternoon the President motored to the Ateneo de Manila on Padre Faura, where he addressed graduates of the NBI police training course.

The graduates are composed of selected police officers from police agencies all over the country.

In his speech the President lauded the National Bureau of Investigation for having adopted a standardized training program designed to increase the efficiency of local policemen.

The President was presented with a pair of miniature handcuffs by NBI Director Jose G. Lukban. The handcuffs, made by the NBI research laboratories, secure the thumb, instead of the wrists.

From the graduation rites, the President motored back to Malacañang.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: April 7-13, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

*April 7.*—PRESIDENT Macapagal met with leaders of the Liberal Party this morning and threshed out party matters to insure a clean sweep of the polls in the coming elections.

The Chief Executive conferred with the party leaders, mostly delegates to Saturday's convention, after a breakfast he gave for them at Malacañang Park.

In his conversations with them the President stressed anew the need for unity among all elements of the party if it is to continue to succeed in carrying out measures for socio-economic development and national reform.

The President received the delegates in groups from 9 o'clock in the morning up to 1:30 p.m.

Also present at the breakfast were Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, Senator Estanislao Fernandez, Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, and Assistant Majority Floor Leader Vincenzo Sagun.

*April 8.*—THIS morning President Macapagal held a round of conferences with provincial and city officials on matters concerning their respective localities.

Those who met with the Chief Executive were Govs. Corazon Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Melanio T. Singson of Isabela, Guadalupe Adaza of Zamboanga del Norte, Dominador Asis of Camarines Norte, Lope Damasco of Bukidnon, Claro M. Robles of Quezon, Juan Privaldo of Sorsogon, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan. Benjamin Abubakar of Sulu, Apolonio Maleniza of Caniarrines Sur, Alfonso Dadole of Misamis Oriental, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, Gideon Quijano of Misamis Occidental, and Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte; Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental; Mayor Luis Los Baños of Legaspi City; and Councilor Jose Ramos of Bacolod City.

Earlier this morning the President received Andrew N. Overby, vice-president of the First Boston Corporation in New York, who paid him a courtesy call.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive received Gen. Curtis E. LeMay, chief of staff of the US airforce, who paid him a courtesy call. LeMay arrived here yesterday in the course of a military trip to several countries and Pacific airforce bases in the Far East.

With the American General in calling on the President were Richard E. Usher of the US State Department, Brig. Gen. Richard H. E. Uls, executive officer to the chief of staff; Col. Maxwell W. Steel, and Lt. Col. George S. Dorman. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Minister Richard M. Service of the local American embassy, Major General Theodor R. Milton, commanding general of the 13th Airforce; and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.

The President also received the Friends of Roxas and accepted their invitation to him to be their guest on the observance of the 15th death anniversary of former President Manuel A. Roxas on Monday, April 15.

They were Mrs. Trinidad Roxas; Rep. and Mrs. Gerardo Roxas; Manuel V. Gallego, president of the Friends of Roxas, Inc.; Delfin Buencamino and Placido Mapa, vice-presidents of the association; and Felisberto Bustos.

In the evening the President met with some senators on legislative matters.

The President also discussed local matters with 21 mayors from Davao who were accompanied to the Palace by Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, Provincial Board Member Froculo Fuentes, ex-Rep. Gavino Sepulveda, and Lorenzo Sarmiento, an engineer.

In the course of his meeting with the senators, the Chief Executive witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Speaker Cornelio T. Villa-real of opposition leaders from Bataan.

The new Liberal converts were ex-Gov. Adelmo Camacho; Mayors Lorenzo de la Fuente of Abucay and Alfonso Paguio of Pilar; Pilar ex-mayor Marcelo S. Quiros; Councilors Antonio Solomon, Conrado Pizaro, Mariano de Jesus, Melencio Ramos, Pedro Quicho, Sinifroso Evangeiista, Guillermo Crisostomo, Severino Reyes, and Ruben Roxas of Pilar, Abucay, and Orion; and Ricardo Angeles and Bernardo Villanueva.

Present at the induction ceremony held at the President's study were Bataan Gov. Pedro Dizon, Commerce Undersecretary Medina Lacson de Leon, ex-Gov. Ruperto Estanislao, Pablo Roman, Provincial Board Members Toribio Sioson and Ruperto Mariano, and Judge Froilan Blanco.

President Macapagal today designated the period from July 1 to August 15 this year for a National Fund Campaign for the Boy Scouts of the Philippines.

In a proclamation the Chief Executive noted that "the BSP has more than aptly demonstrated that it merits the continued moral encouragement and moral support of our people" and that "there is a great need for the organization to make the Scouting Program available to boys all over the country."

**April 9.**—ACCOMPANIED by the First Lady and daughter Gloria, President Macapagal this morning motored to Batangas where he inaugurated a regional NACIDA-EEA center in Lipa City and inspected the site of a proposed P5 million circumferential road around scenic Taal Lake.

The President also inspected NACIDA-EEA training centers where people are taught such industrial skills as the making of mats, handbags, slippers, shoes, and baskets out of locally produced materials.

Also with the President were Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, NACIDA Administrator Jovito Rivera, Deputy Administrator Hilarion Pilapil, and EEA officials.

Leaving Malacañang about 8 a.m., the President and the First Lady dropped in at the National Press Club, where they viewed the remains of former newsman Pedro Mañgahas, and offered their condolence to his widow and children.

Arriving at the Laguna-Batangas boundary shortly before 10 a.m., they were met by a large delegation composed of Ealangas provincial and municipal officials headed by Sen. Maria Kalaw Katigbak. Then at the head of a kilometer-long motorcade, the President and the First Lady proceeded to Lipa City, where a *Te Deum* was sung in their honor.

At the inauguration, the First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon. She was assisted by her daughter, Gloria, who was sporting a blue polka dot *Pag-asa* dress.

After inspecting two training centers in the city and spending some time talking with trainee-workers, the presidential party motored to a nearby barrio, Balete, where an unscheduled rally was held. At the rally local Nacionalista leaders led by Mayors Teodoro Mayuga of San Nicolas and Mariano Venturanza of Lemery, and Francisco Dipasupil, an NP congressional candidate in the last elections, took their oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party.

About 1 p.m. the President and the First Lady boarded a motorized banca and sailed some three nautical miles to an opposite bank of the lake around which a circumferential road is proposed to be constructed as a tourist attraction. Cost of the road is estimated at from P5 to P6 million.

The presidential party had lunch at a resthouse owned by Eliseo Silva on the bank of the Lake.

Owing to unscheduled stops along the route of the presidential mortocade the President was two hours behind schedule in Bauan, where another public rally was held at the town plaza. Some 200 local Nacionalista leaders affiliated with the Liberal Party at this rally.

The President's last stop was Mabini, where more opposition lenders took their oaths of affiliation before the President.

The Chief Executive and the First Lady returned to Malacañang late in the evening.

**April 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred this morning with members of Congress on problems affecting their respective districts.

Led by Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, those who met with the Chief Executive were Reps, Guillermo Sambo of Misamis Occidental, Dominador Tan of Leyte, Tito Dupaya and Benjamin Ligt of Cagayan, Justo Albert of Manila, Eladio Balite of Samar, Felipe Abeleda of Mindoro Occidental, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao del Norte, and Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte.

Assistant Majority floor Leader Vincenzo A. Sagun also came to accompany Clemente Antonio, who was proclaimed recently as Liberal Party candidate for mayor of Basilan City.

After meeting with Clemente, the Chief Executive presided over his regular weekly press conference.

In the press conference the President explained his controversial revenue measures which seek to increase levies on income and commodities. He expressed confidence that the presentation of revenue measures to Congress will not adversely affect the chances of administration candidates in the coming mid-term elections.

After the press conference the Chief Executive received former Rep. Tomas Clemente, acting general manager of the Manila Railroad Company, who sought aid for the improvement of the MRR.

The President also conferred with Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova. Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag. Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda of the National Economic Council, and Ramon Diaz of the Government Service Insurance System.

The President directed today the Bureau of Internal Revenue to extend the deadline for the filing of income tax returns in the provinces for one week, or up to April 20.

The President issued the directive to Commissioner Jose B. Lingad when informed that many businessmen were stranded in Manila as a result of the strike of pilots of the Philippine Air Lines.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., said that the extension will redound to the benefit of cities and municipalities which would otherwise lose income because businessmen would be forced to file their income tax returns in Manila.

Under the law, city and municipal governments get a portion of taxes collected from businessman having establishments located in those cities and municipalities.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation authorizing the Elks Cerebral Palsy Project, Inc., to conduct a national educational and fund campaign from May 1 to June 30 this year, it was announced by Malacañang today.

The Chief Executive emphasized the need for improving therapy and treatment given cerebral-palsied children so as to relieve their parents and the community of the burden of attending to their needs.

**April 11.**—THE Chief Executive spent a quiet day in Malacañang today. He went over some pending state papers and read religious books in contemplation of the life of Christ.

He had breakfast and lunch with the Macapagal children and asked them to behave during their world tour. It is the second overseas trip of the three children since President Macapagal assumed the presidency. The three children accompanied the President in his state visits to Spain, Italy, and Pakistan.

The President today saw off his three children, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr., aboard the *S.S. President Cleveland* at Pier 9.

The Macapagal children, accompanied by the President's mother-in-law, Irena Vda. de Macaraeg, are leaving on a world tour. They will touch key cities of Hongkong, Japan, Honolulu, and the United States after which they will proceed to Europe.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President and friends of the family, bade the Macapagal children *bon voyage*.

**April 12.**—THIS morning the President spent the day in his bedroom, where he read religious books. He watched on television the "Seven Last Words" rites in a Manila church.

This afternoon President Macapagal motored to Lubao, Pampanga, where he joined the traditional Good Friday procession in his hometown.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, left Manila at 4 p.m. and arrived at Lubao shortly after 5. They were met in Lubao by a large Good Friday crowd headed by the town mayor.

The President has always attended the Good Friday procession every year in his hometown.

Last year, however, he failed to join the Good Friday rites, as he was in Iligan City at the *hacienda* of his mother-in-law during the Lenten week.

The President was scheduled to have dinner in Lubao and then return to Malacañang before midnight.

President Macapagal created today a permanent 12-man committee to study and recommend solutions to the squatter problem, which he observed had become national in scope,

The committee will study all aspects of the squatter problem, both in urban and rural areas, with a view to its permanent solution.

The President directed the committee to look for sites where squatters could be finally relocated. The committee work will cover the problem of squatters along railroad tracks and in forest reservations.

The committee will be composed of the executive secretary, as chairman; the secretary of labor; the social welfare administrator; the under secretaries of National Defense, Justice, and Public Works; a civic leader with a real estate background; the directors of the Bureaus of Lands and Forestry; and the general managers of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, the Home Financing Commission, and the Government Service Insurance System, as members.

**April 13.**—TODAY President Macapagal spent a quiet day in observance of the last day of Lent.

The Chief Executive closeted himself in his private study the whole day, poring over important state papers. He spent some hours meditating on the significance of Calvary and the Resurrection.

The President did not receive any callers. He was expected to make an ocular inspection of the Tatalon Estate in Quezon City to varify complaints of the occupants that water mains in the area had been destroyed by a bulldozer. He directed Solicitor General Arturo A. Alafritz to look into the matter.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: April 14-20, 1963

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**April 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today directed the Bureau of Internal Revenue to extend the deadline for the filing of income tax returns in Manila up to April 20.

The Chief Executive had previously extended the deadline in the provinces as a result of the strike of pilots of the Philippines Air Lines which had stranded many businessmen from the provinces in Manila.

The President decided to extend the deadline in Manila when informed that Mayor Antonio Villegas and many Manila businessmen have requested Malacañang to extend the deadline in the city.

The new deadline for both the provinces and Manila is April 20.

President Macapagal paid tribute today to the memory of the late President Manuel A. Roxas whose 15th death anniversary will be observed tomorrow.

In a commemorative message the Chief Executive said: "At this time when our country is going through the crucial stages of nation-building, it is but fitting that on the 15th anniversary of the death of the late President Roxas we call to mind the role he played as one of the great architects of our nation."

The Chief Executive said that Roxas, as the first President of the Philippine Republic, "laid the rock of its economic, social, and political foundation upon which a strong and stable nation now steadily rises."

The President and the First Lady are scheduled to attend tomorrow evening a Roxas memorial dinner at the Manila Hotel Fiesta Pavilion which will cap this year's observance of the anniversary of his death.

This afternoon the President motored to the controversial Tatalon Estate in Quezon City where he viewed the progress of the reported demolition of houses of tenants by the management of the *hacienda*. The Chief Executive was accompanied by Solicitor General Arturo A. Alafritz and Legislative Secretary Manuel Concordia.

The President saw the tenants whose houses were being demolished and promised them he would appeal to the management of the Tatalon Estate to stay the destruction of their shanties.

The President also asked Solicitor General Alafritz to study the legal aspect of the case to find a way for the government to help the tenants.

Earlier this afternoon the President attended Easter Sunday mass at the Malacañang chapel. He was joined by the First Lady at the mass.

The President did not receive any callers. He busied himself working on pending state papers.

**April 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today led the nation in commemorating the 15th death anniversary of President Manuel A. Roxas, first President of the Republic, who died at Clark Air Base after delivering a speech on Philippine-American cooperation.

The Chief Executive also headed Manilans in observing the first death anniversary of Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, who was mayor of the city for 11 years.

The President and the First Lady attended this morning a special commemorative mass for the late President Roxas at the San Miguel Cathedral



Among those present at the mass were relatives of the late President headed by Mrs. Trinidad de Leon Roxas and son, Rep Gerardo Roxas, Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Sen. Eulogio Balao, British Ambassador John Pilcher, former Ambassador Emilio Abello, NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, and officers and members of the Friends of Roxas, Inc., led by former Education Secretary Manuel Gallego, association president.

After the mass the First Couple, together with Mrs. Roxas, her son, and others, placed flowers before an oil painting of President Roxas at the Malacañang reception hall.

Earlier this morning the President sent wreaths to the tombs of Roxas and Lacson in remembrance of the two late political figures.

At noon the President gave a luncheon for members of the Cabinet as well as provincial and city executives with whom he discussed administrative matters.

Before meeting with them, however, the President received John Exter, vice-president of the National City Bank of New York, and Richard Furlaud, vice-president of Holin International who called to pay their respects.

Exter was a member of the joint Philippine-American advisory commission which helped draft the bill creating the Central Bank of the Philippines during the time of the late President Roxas. Exter discussed with the Chief Executive government policy on banks. With him during the brief call on the President was Richard M. Henry, resident vice-president of the First National City Bank of New York.

Furlaud arrived here last Saturday in the course of a business survey tour of Asia. He took up with the President matters concerning the pharmaceutical industry. With him in calling on the Chief Executive were Dennis Fill, regional vice-president of Holin International, and John M. Reed and William D. Davis, Jr., vice-president and general manager of E. R. Squibbs and Sons.

Exter and Furlaud were accompanied to Malacañang by Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

In the afternoon the President met with Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, RCA Chairman Jose Feliciano, and RICOB Chairman E. V. Mendoza on rice supply. They reassured the President that the country has ample supply of rice.

The President also met with Liberal senators, led by Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, on legislative matters.

In the evening the First Couple attended a memorial dinner at the Manila Hotel tendered by the Friends of Roxas, Inc., in honor of the late Chief Executive.

**April 16.**—THE Chief Executive met today with Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and NACIDA Administrator Jovito Rivera on the establishment of NACIDA regional institutes that will determine which cottage industry products could be mass-produced with the assistance of the government.

Earlier this morning the Chief Executive inducted into office Dr. Miguela M. Solis as director of the National Coordinating Center for the Study and Development of Filipino Children and Youth.

A dedicated educator, Dr. Solis pioneered the movement for adequate understanding of Filipino children and youth when she was division superintendent of schools of Bataan. She had been Philippine delegate to various international conferences on education as well as a recipient of numerous scholarships and travel grants.

Among those present at the induction ceremony held at the President's study were Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, former Sen. Geronima Pecson, Fr. Anselmo Cruz, and the inductee's husband, Alberto, and children, Alberto, Jr., and Linda.

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady were principal guests at the inauguration of the Continental Bank in Binondo. Mrs. Macapagal officiated at the cutting of the ceremonial ribbon.

Back Malacañang at 6:45 p.m., the President administered the oath of office to Judge Romualdo Enriquez as director of the Manila Hotel Witnessing the induction ceremony, were ex-Gov. Gregorio Santayana and Rep. Eladio Caliwara of Quezon, Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, immediate members of the inductee's family, and political leaders of Quezon province.

The President ordered today the filing of criminal and/or administrative charges against government officials and employees found conniving with private persons in the illegal cutting of timber in public forests and national parks.

The Chief Executive issued the order after he was informed that one of the main causes of rampant illegal deforestation was the reported failure of the government agencies concerned to enforce strictly forestry laws and regulations.

The information was contained in a partial report of the findings of a combined Presidential Anti-Graft Committee-Philippine Constabulary team that surveyed the Bicol region, particularly the national park located in Camarines Norte.

**April 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal this morning tendered a breakfast in honor of delegates to the sub-ministerial talks held among the Philippines, Malaya, and Indonesia.

Present at the breakfast were Inche Mohamed Ghazali Bin Shafie, permanent secretary of the ministry of external affairs of the Federation of Malaya; Dr. Suwito Kusumowidagdo, Indonesian deputy foreign minister; Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak; Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez; Minister R. S. Busuego, counselor on political and cultural affairs of the Department of Foreign Affairs; Malayan Ambassador Inche Zaiton Ibrahim; the First Lady; and Ambassador Librado Cayco.

During the breakfast the delegates informed the President that the tripartite talks had proven successful thus far and said that they expected to conclude their talks today. The President expressed gratification and the hope that the forthcoming talks among foreign ministers of the three countries would be as successful.

Later this morning the President met with members of Congress on legislative matters, including requests for release of funds for urgent public works projects in their districts.

In the course of his meeting with the congressmen, the Chief Executive witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party of eight opposition leaders from Zamboanga del Norte and Surigao del Norte.

In the afternoon the President received Major General Achmad Jani, commander-in-chief of the Indonesian Army, who paid him a courtesy call. The Indonesian army chief arrived yesterday for a three-day official visit here.

The President also received Philippine Ambassador to the United Nations Jacinto Borja.

After meeting with Ambassador Borja, the Chief Executive presided over his regular weekly press conference. Shortly thereafter, he had an interview with Rolf Italiaander, a German writer.

At his press conference President Macapagal attributed criticisms against the world tour his children recently started to the inability of the Nacionalistas to raise valid issues against the Administration.

For the first time since his critics started attacking him for allowing his children to leave on the tour, the Chief Executive came out in defense of the trip. He justified the tour at his weekly press conference by saying it was not a pleasure trip but an educational tour which he and Mrs. Macapagal "felt it our duty to give to our children.

During the press conference the President also:

- (1) Reiterated that the Liberals would use the issue of high prices against the Nacionalistas in the coming elections as he tried to prove that the Administration had been successful in keeping prices down;
- (2) Took exception to findings of an accountants' group that the tax load on the people of the Philippines was heavier than that on the people of the United States who are supposed to be the heaviest taxed people in the world;
- (3) Corrected interpretations of a statement made by Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo in the U.S. on the spending attitude of the government; and
- (4) Elaborated on his reasons for recommending the increase in the rates of taxes, especially on income taxes.

Answering charges from the opposition that he made a mockery of his tenet of simple living by sending his children on an expensive trip abroad, the President said he did not feel that the tour was not worth the expense.

Mrs. Macapagal and I accept the educational value of travel and we feel it our duty to give them this trip," the President said explaining the tour recently started by their children, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.

In the evening the President, accompanied by Mrs. Macapagal, motored to Baguio City where he will address the opening session of the 54th annual convention of school superintendents at the Teacher's Camp tomorrow morning.

The President has issued a proclamation declaring the period from April 1, 1963, to January 31, 1964, as the New York World's Fair Fund Drive, Malacañang announced today.

The President said in the proclamation that "participation in international fairs and expositions provides an effective means of encouraging and assisting economic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, and cultural ties among participating nations." In his proclamation the Chief Executive also noted the urgent need for the Philippine Government "to project effectively our culture and export products to the attention of foreign nations"

He said the Philippines, through the Department of Commerce and Industry, has committed itself to participate in the New York World's Fair scheduled to be held in New York for a period of two years from April 21 to October 18, 1964, and April 21 to October 17, 1965.

The President has also issued Executive Order No. 38, creating a committee to screen and aid deserving squatters and new settlers in Oriental Mindoro. This order amends Executive Order No. 118, dated June 22, 1955, issued for the purpose of screening squatters and would-be settlers in Oriental Mindoro and also for determining those who are deserving of assistance in the allocation of lots in subdivisions of the Bureau of Lands.

The screening committee is composed of the District Land Officer, as chairman; and the district forester, the provincial commander, the superintendent of the NARRA Project in Oriental Mindoro, a representative of the President of the Philippines, a representative of the Oriental Mindoro provincial government, the provincial agricultural council chairman, the Calapan Rotary Club president, the Calapan Women's Club president, and the Social Worker in charge, as members.

**April 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was keynote speaker today at the opening session of the 54th annual convention of school superintendents at the Teacher's Camp in Baguio City.

The Chief Executive was up early to polish his speech. He was introduced by Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces.

In his speech the Chief Executive underscored the vital role of school superintendents and teachers in the building of the nation and pledged that further efforts would be exerted by the Administration to give additional benefits to them.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, arrived at the Mansion House about 2 o'clock this morning, after more than four hours' night travel from Manila.

After delivering his address the President went back to the Mansion House, where he gave an informal press conference to the newspapermen who accompanied him from Manila.

After a hurried lunch, the President and the First Lady motored back to Manila, arriving Malacañang at 4 p.m. He spent the rest of the day going over state papers.

**April 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had another hectic day today attending to some 1,340 "Common Man's Day" callers from 8 o'clock in the morning up to about 2:30 p.m.

Assisted by the First Lady and a group of Palace assistants, the Chief Executive received them individually and in groups in his study and at the social hall.

After a brief rest the President received some 73 landowners from Tarlac and Pampanga who came to pledge their wholehearted support of the Administration's land reform program.

He then attended to 14 groups of businessmen who saw him on various matters affecting the business community.

The President asked today the management of the Boulevard Subdivision in Tondo to give its tenants ample time to find places where they could transfer their houses.

The Chief Executive issued the request through Legislative Secretary and Social Security Commissioner Manuel Concordia in response to a request of a subdivision delegation which called on him on "Common Man's Day" in Malacañang this morning.

The delegation headed by Ignacio Buan told the President about the projected demolition of their houses in the subdivision. In their talk with the Chief Executive, they claimed that they had not been given by the owners of the subdivision a chance to purchase the lots they occupy before they were sold to other parties, considering the fact that they had been residing there since 1945.

Earlier this morning the President ordered National Treasurer Vicente Gella to "exert extra efforts" to expedite action on the backpay claims of two invalids who sought his assistance.

Benjamin Camagay, a paralytic of Malabon, Rizal, and Vicente Aguila, a cripple of Sta. Mesa, Manila, complained that payment of their backpay claims had been long overdue. Camagay, a guerrilla during the Japanese occupation, came to tell the President that he had not received a single centavo of his backpay.

Aguila sought the release of the backpay due his wife, who died in line of duty in May 1957 as an employee of the Social Welfare Administration. He said he had received P200 only out of P1,330 his wife was entitled to.

Aguila was carried up and down the Palace by two members of the Presidential Guard Battalion because he could hardly move.

A delegation of some 160 workers of Ardex, Inc., sought presidential intercession in their grievances against the company. Led by Wilfredo Ariston and Segundo Gonzales, PLUM board of presidents chairman and national coordinator, respectively, they claimed that workers in the company were being eased out of their jobs gradually and without cause.

Another delegation from I-Feng Company, an enamelled products manufacturing firm, petitioned the Chief Executive to restrict the entry into the country of enamelled products since their company is capable of supplying the country's need for them. Continuous flooding of the country with those products, they said, will force their company to close shop with the consequent lay-off of employees.

Two groups from Hagonoy, Bulacan, and Binakayan, Cavite, led by their respective PTA presidents requested the release of funds for the construction of communal irrigation systems and school-buildings.

Another complainant was Paulino B. Biabon of North Harbor, Tondo, who claimed that the postmaster in Washington, Aklan, kept a portion of the war damage payment mailed to him by the US-PI War Damage Commission in 1947. He claimed that he did not know of the irregularity until he received the papers on the payment last year.

**April 20.**—THE PRESIDENT, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to the NDC compound to be the guests of honor at the ceremonies on the occasion of the formal turnover of the NDC-owned textile mills to the mill workers numbering some 1,200.

The Chief Executive was awarded a plaque "in grateful appreciation of his untiring efforts in the sale of the mill to the workers."

The plaque was presented to him by B. R. Luna, president of the UWICI, in the presence of NDC Chairman Ramon Arnaldo, Manager Jose H. Panganiban, members of the board of directors, other officers of the union, and other guests.

Mrs. Macapagal, assisted by UWICI members, unveiled the marker of the mill.

President Macapagal said in his speech that the turnover of the NDC Manila Textile Mills to the Union Workers' Industrial Cooperative, Inc., is in line with the efforts of the present Administration to give justice and recognition to the common man.

He said that transfers like this and the land reform program which aims to abolish tenancy in the Philippines are among the several major changes embodied in the socio-economic program designed to give all of the people a better "life. He expressed the hope that the venture under the new management will be a success.

The President said that if the workers are successful in the operation of the mill, "this will serve as the basis for the withdrawal of the government from active management of other similar corporations in favor of the workers."

The textile mill was acquired by the union workers for P8 million, with a down payment of 15 per cent and the balance payable in 10 years.

President Macapagal directed today Justice Secretary Juan Liwag and Secretary of National Defense Macario Peralta, Jr., to take steps to put a stop to the reported racket financed by aliens which is aimed at disrupting the program of the Rice and Corn Administration to sell adequate rice to the masses at from P0.85 to P0.95.

The President directed Secretary Liwag to determine the identity of the aliens involved with a view to their immediate deportation.

The Chief Executive said that he would bring about their effective deportation "within forty-eight hours" after the basis for such action has been established.

The President said that the Administration may possibly tolerate other things based on "justice tempered with mercy" but will act with the fullest severity of the law against all parties, aliens and citizens alike, who will seek to sabotage the program of the Administration to provide rice and corn at lower prices to the people.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: April 21-27, 1963

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**April 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal cancelled today a scheduled trip to Taguig, Rizal, to visit the cottage industries in that town.

However in the afternoon, the President, accompanied by the First Lady, visited the squatter areas at the foot of the Ayala Bridge near Malacañang to find out how those living there were faring.

Seeing the squatters' shanties, the President gave assurances that the Administration is establishing shortly tenement houses to accommodate as many squatters as possible.

**April 22.**—THIS morning President Macapagal met anew with Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez and gave him final instructions on the \$73 million U.S. war damage payment to the Philippines.

Lopez enplaned this afternoon for Washington to confer with Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently foreign affairs secretary, and Ambassador Amelito Mutuc on the latest developments concerning the Philippine claim.

The President and Lopez had a lengthy conference on the matter yesterday.

Following his meeting with Lopez this morning, the President conferred with 12 provincial governors and two city mayors on various matters affecting their respective regions. He also received some 60 delegates to the three-day 17th annual convention of the Philippine Veterans Legion which ended yesterday.

Led by Jaime Piopongco and Ernesto Villanes, PVL national commander and national adjutant, respectively, the veterans presented the President with a resolution pledging support for the Administration's program of government, and making him honorary national commander of the PVL.

This afternoon the President and the First Lady motored to Pier 3 in the South Harbor, where they were guests of honor at the blessing of the 5,200 ton *M. B. Visayas* of the Compañia Maritima. Mrs. Macapagal unveiled the marker of the P8 million-vessel from West Germany.

Back in Malacañang late in the afternoon, the Chief Executive received some Liberal members of the Senate. He also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Sen. Camilo Osias of Mayors Artemio Aquino of San Juan and Anacleto Lucina of Bangar, La Union.

Present at the induction ceremony were La Union Gov. Eulogio de Guzman and Vice-Gov. Pedro Peralta, Quezon City Engineer Baltazar Aquino, and other political leaders of La Union.

President Macapagal today issued a proclamation declaring Thursday, May 2, this year as a special public holiday in commemoration of the 21st anniversary of the death of Justice Jose Abad Santos.

The President's proclamation points out that there is justification for the belief that the late Justice was the "outstanding Filipino martyr" in the Second World War and that his martyrdom ranked beside those of Dr. Jose Rizal and Fathers Burgos, Gomez, and Zamora.

"His martyrdom will remain forever as an inspiring symbol of the purest ideals of the Filipino people" the President said.

Justice Abad Santos was executed by the Japanese at Malabang, Lanao, on May 2, 1942. He chose to die rather than collaborate with the enemy during World War II.

**April 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today had an exchange of views with Chakravathi V. Narashimhan, United Nations deputy secretary general, on the projected Federation of Malaysia as it affects the Philippine claim to North Borneo.

The UN official called on the Chief Executive this morning to pay his respects following his arrival here yesterday on a fact-finding mission for UN Secretary General U Thant.

Shortly after their brief meeting, Narashimhan was honored at luncheon by the President and the First Lady.

Also present at the luncheon held at the state dining room were Ambassador and Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado Cayco, Philippine Ambassador to the United Nations Jacinto Borja, Ambassadors Nazir Dt. Pamontjak of Indonesia, Zaiton Ibrahim Bin Ahmad of Malaya, Solaiman Sait of India, John Arthur Pilcher of Great Britain, Sen. Raul S. Manglapus, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag, Rep. Godofredo Ramos, Rep. Jovito Salonga of Rizal, and Minister Richard Service of the local American embassy.

Earlier this morning the President met with Auditor General Pedro Gimenez on vital legislative measures designed to strengthen the General Auditing Office and minimize red tape.

The President also received delegations composed of labor leaders and representatives of the Labor-Management Advisory Council of the Department of Labor.

The labor leaders led by Pedro D. Fernandez, chairman of the 1963 Labor Day celebration, invited the Chief Executive to be their guest of honor and speaker at a Labor Day rally on May 1 to be held at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

The labor-management representatives headed by Dr. Francisco Dalupan, chairman of the Labor-Management Advisory Council, also invited the President and the First Lady to be their honor guests at the opening of the 1963 Labor-Management Congress on May 2 at the UE auditorium. Both invitation were accepted by the President.

In the afternoon the President received Pelagio Cruz, chief of the Reparations Mission in Tokyo, Reparations Chairman Benedicto Padilla and Director Serafin Lanot of the Bureau of Printing, who consulted him on matters concerning their respective offices.

In the evening the President motored to the Plaridel Temple on San Marcelino where he was guest speaker at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines.

**April 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was guest speaker today at the opening session of the 56th annual convention of the Philippine Medical Association at the Far Eastern University auditorium.

In his speech the Chief Executive urged the expansion of health facilities in the rural areas as a means of improving the appallingly unwholesome conditions in the rural areas.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, was fetched from Malacañang by Health Secretary Francisco Q. Duque.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive received Chakravathi V. Narashimhan, United Nations Deputy secretary general, who came to bid him goodbye prior to his departure tonight for Malaya and Indonesia.

The President took the occasion to thank him on behalf of the Filipino people for the efforts being exerted by the UN in the solution of varied problems in Asia. He said that "our people have so much faith in the United Nations."



Narashimhan in turn expressed his personal appreciation for the hospitality accorded him during his brief stay here. He said that he was “overwhelmed by your country’s and hospitality.”

At his regular press conference, President Macapagal bared an alleged plot against his life and identified two Bohol solons, an elections commissioner and a former Boholano Cabinet member as four of the five conspirators.

The President said “the plot is real”, and he linked to the plot Reps. Bartolome C Cabangbang and Natalio Castillo, former Executive secretary Juan C. Pajo, Commissioner on Elections Genaro Visarra, and the latter’s son-in-law whom the President identified as “Atty Lapiz.”

The President said that although the findings of the presidential security service linked the five to a “real plot,” Justice Secretary Juan R Liwag ruled that inasmuch as it was only a conspiracy which was never executed it could not be punishable by law.

He said that the plot was uncovered after an escaped convict, Fortunato Bonilla y Relapagos, was found with hand grenades allegedly on a mission to assassinate somebody.”

Bonilla at first told police authorities he was after former President Garcia but later turned about his testimony and said he was gunning for President Macapagal.

The President volunteered to talk on the plot against his life during his regular press conference.

At his regular press conference, the President:

1. Reiterated that he had an exchange of views with Chakravarthi Narshimhan, deputy secretary general of the United Nations, on the projected formation of Malaysia in the light of the Philippine claim to North Borneo;
2. Announced the creation of a two-man committee to probe reports of the continued operation of gambling joints in the city and suburbs; and
3. Reassured the country of an ample supply of rice this year.

The President told newsmen that he had sent Foreign Affairs Under secretary Salvador P. Lopez to Washington to take up “matters of mutual interests to both the Philippines and the United States.” However, he refused to elaborate on Lopez’s mission to the U.S.

Asked on his choice in the mode of paying the Philippine war damage claims, the President reiterated he has always declined to answer questions of that nature because the “method of payment is the responsibility of the U.S. Congress.”

He said he was only interested in the payment of the RP war damage claims. He expressed confidence that the U.S. Government will live up to its pledge of indemnifying damages caused during the last war.

President Macapagal today condoled with the people of Israel on the death of Israel’s State President Izhak Ben-Zvi early Tuesday.

In a cablegram to Israel’s Acting President Kadish Luz, the Chief Executive extended to the Israelis the Filipino people’s ‘heartfelt sympathies and sincerest condolences’ on the death of the Israeli President

The 78-year old Chief of State died of cancer at his home in Jerusalem. He was Israel’s second president.

**April 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today expressed elation over the progress of initial projects of the Sta. Ines Steel and Mining Corporation leading to the establishment of an integrated steel mill in Antipolo, Rizal.

Officials the steel corporation headed by its president, Gen. Alfonso Arellano (ret.), called on the President on “Businessmen’s Day” at Malacañang this morning to thank him for government support to the corporation in getting a \$28 million from West Germany.

The steel officials informed the Chief Executive that explanatory work in iron ore mines undertaken by the corporation had yielded results far above their expectations. A tunnel they built in Sta. Ines, Antipolo, as required by the presidential steel committee, has shown they have a reserve of 30 million tons of high quality ore which, they said, had been found satisfactory by their consultants in Germany.

The steel officials also informed the President that they could raise the peso counterpart needed in the establishment of the steel mill. The production of steel in the country, the steel officials said, will not only save the country some \$50 million in reserves but will also attract foreign investors who are engaged in heavy industries.

A total of 17 groups met with the President on problems confronting the business community, including proposals for new business undertakings.

A businessman from Bulacan, Donato Paglalunan Uy, proposed the exportation of milk fish fry to Taiwan. He explained that there is an abundant supply of *bangus* fry along the shores of the country which only go back to ocean waters after a certain season because the country’s fish ponds cannot absorb them.

Exportation of the fry will not only increase the country’s dollar receipts but also contribute to normalizing the country’s balance of trade, Uy said. “It will also provide employment opportunities to no less than 10,000 per sons living along coastal areas,” he added.

D. P. Canlas, president of the Manila Pencil Company (MAPECO), complained that government offices specify imported pencils in their bid ding invitations. He said that pencils produced by his company compare favorably with the imported ones but because of discriminatory specifications, they could not be entered in the bids.

Another complainant was Ramona Vargas Sy-Quia, executive vice-president and general manager of the Vargas Plow Factory, Inc. She said a certain government office would not buy plows from her firm because they cost more than others. She said that the government entity looks more after the cost and not after the quality of the products.

Oscar Obligation, director of the Philippine Seating Company, petitioned that his firm be given a share in reparations goods.

In the afternoon the President went over pending state papers.

Other callers today were Dwight Allen, vice-president and Southeast Asia representative of Hanover Trust, and Malayan Ambassador Ibrahim Saiton.

Allen was quoted by Palace assistants as having told the President he was amazed of the country’s economic recovery here after the implementation of decontrol program.

**April 26.**—THIS day President Macapagal received a total of 1,063 “Common Man’s Day” callers who saw him on matters ranging from personal problems to community development projects.

Assisted by the First Lady and a group of Palace assistants, the President attended to his numerous callers from 8:15 o’clock in the morning to 2:45 p.m.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive met with some 34 congressmen headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal.

The lawmakers assured the President of the speedy passage of Administration measures, particularly the Land Reform bill, during the regular session. The President thanked them and explained to them the economic advantages that stood to be gained with the enactment of the measures.

Speaker Villareal, who acted as spokesman of the group, said that at the rate the Lower House is working, he is optimistic that all the pending bills will be considered.

After receiving the lawmakers the Chief Executive conferred with Governor Andres Castillo of the Central Bank, who reported on his 15-day mission abroad.

Castillo informed the President that \$40 million standby credit from the International Monetary Fund had been renewed for another year. He also reported that he met with several bankers and prospective investors who wanted to gain first hand information on economic conditions to this country.

Other callers on the President were Mayor Ramon Daremdes of Domangas, Iloilo, who was accompanied by Rep. Ricardo Ladrido, Secretary Rufino Hechanova, and Iloilo Member Rafael Palmares.

Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., Customs Commissioner Norberto Romualdez, Jr., and Mayor Alberto Llamera also called on the President.

**April 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal inducted into the Liberal Party today some 60 Nacionalistas of Abucay led by Mayor Lorenzo de la Fuente. The affiliation took place in the course of the President's visit to the province today in line with his policy of regionalizing Malacañang.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to Balanga from the Bataan Refining Corporation in Limay which they visited earlier today. In a public rally at the town plaza, the Chief Executive explained to the people his program of government.

Upon arrival in Balanga, the President and the First Lady proceeded to the St. Joseph's church where a *Te Deum* was sung in their honor. They also visited the town's newly-constructed health center.

This morning an enthusiastic crowd headed by Govs. Pedro Dizon of Bataan and Manuel Barretto of Zambales met the President at the Pampanga-Bataan highway boundary. From there the President rode at the head of a long motorcade, making whistle stops to return the greetings of welcomers in every town he passed through on the way to the oil refinery.

Arriving at the refinery site about 12:30 p.m., the President and his party were accompanied on a tour of the complex industrial plant by Clifton Jones, acting refinery president, ESSO General Manager G. H. White, and Mobiloil President H. P. Byrd. The three oil officials showed the Chief Executive the site and the blueprint of a \$33 million ESSO Eastern Fertilizer Plant, which is to be constructed this year.

Back at the refinery's administration building after the tour, the President met with Manila newsmen who accompanied him before having his lunch. From there, the President motored to Poro Point in La Union, where he intends to stay for a couple of days.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: April 28 - May 4, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**April 28.**—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Macapagal spent a quiet day yesterday at the presidential hideout in Poro Point, La Union.

The President and the First Lady repaired to the resort yesterday from Balanga, Bataan, to where the Chief Executive motored earlier from Manila to visit the facilities of the Bataan Refining Corporation and inquire into local conditions as part of his program of “regionalizing” Malacañang.

While in Bataan province, the President also inducted into the Liberal Party some 60 Nacionalista leaders from Abucay led by Mayor Lorenzo de la Fuente.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Parungao, Jr., said that the President spent the whole day in Poro Point going over state papers that had been pending during the week, and also worked on the draft of his speech to be delivered at the annual convention Tuesday of the Bus Operators Association of the Philippines.

**April 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal devoted another day today at Poro Point to working on state papers and the drafts of speeches he is scheduled to deliver soon on various occasions.

Except for the Manila newspapermen accompanying him, with whom he had luncheon at the presidential cottage, the President did not receive callers the whole day.

**April 30.**—THIS morning the President had a breakfast conference with Rep. Manuel T. Cases and Gov. Eulogio de Guzman on matters affecting the province of La Union.

President Macapagal was back at the Palace this afternoon after three days of almost complete seclusion at Poro Point, La Union, working on state papers and drafts of upcoming speeches.

The President, together with the First Lady, left Poro Point at 1:50 o'clock this afternoon, arriving at the Palace about 6 p.m.

In the evening the President and the First Lady motored to the Manila Hotel, where the President was guest of honor and speaker at the opening of the 9th annual convention of the Bus Operators Association of the Philippines (BOAP).

**May 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal called upon the member of Congress today to speed up the passage of vital administration measures designed to improve the country's economy and the livelihood of the people.

The President made the appeal during a breakfast he and the First Lady gave the Congressmen and the members of the Cabinet at Malacañang this morning.

In brief remarks, after the breakfast, the President also invited congressmen to future conferences in order to discuss matters of national importance, like the maintenance of an adequate supply of rice and corn at low prices.

The Chief Executive exhorted the members of the Lower House to work hard “with courage and determination” in the passage of needed legislative measures.

He mentioned the export tax and land reform bills, especially the latter which, he said, should be passed by Congress, even in amended form so long as a satisfactory bill is passed.

In urging them to exert extra efforts for the passage of vital administration measures, the President said that “any singular or fearless act” on their part for the realization of a better life for the masses of the people “will help write a colorful chapter in the pages of the country’s history.”

President Macapagal was principal speaker today at a Labor Day rally at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

In a much-applauded speech, the Chief Executive pledged that his administration will support a law that will bar the hiring of scabs during strikes, to preserve the strength of labor unions. He also said that appropriate legislation will be secured to curb abuses in the issuance of writ of injunction in labor cases.

The President was accorded a thunderous ovation upon his arrival at the coliseum. He was fetched from Malacañang by Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes.

President Macapagal signed today Proclamation No. 105, declaring Friday, May 3, as a special public holiday in the provinces of Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, and Sulu, and in the cities of Basilan, Cotabato, Iligan, and Marawi.

The Chief Executive issued the proclamation in connection with the Muslim National Feast of ID-Ul-Azha,

The proclamation also decreed the exemption from duty of both national and local Muslim officials and employees of the Government who are performing their duties and functions outside of the provinces and cities mentioned above during the feast day.

For purposes of the proclamation, the day shall be considered a special public holiday for said officials and employees in their respective stations.

President Macapagal in a message issued today urged the people to be mindful of the life of Jose Abad Santos and his gallant death “in order that we may draw from them a pattern to guide us in our efforts to build a strong and prosperous Republic.”

The Chief Executive has proclaimed May 2 a special public holiday in commemoration of the 21st anniversary of the death of the national martyr and hero.

The President described Abad Santos as “a man of strong conviction and grim determination,” He said, “Abad Santos’ strength of character and grim determination to carry out what he believed to be right enabled the people of his time to reap the fruits of his wisdom.”

“Rather than bow to the yoke of the Japanese oppressors,” the President added, “Abad Santos willingly accepted what he considered the rare opportunity to die for his country.”

The President issued the following message on the death of Lope K. Santos:

“I join the Nation in grieving the passing away of that Tagalog gentleman whose advocacy of the Filipino language can be matched in ardor only by his dedication to public service—Lope K. Santos.

“Lope K., as he was better known, combined the sensitivity of the artist, the passion for truth of the newspaperman and the practicableness of a politician in his personal struggle to bring about the material and cultural development of the Filipino.

“Writer, journalist, public servant, gentleman, Lope K. leaves this world, his life well-lived, his love fully reciprocated, assured of a cherished place in his people’s heart and in his Nation’s history.”

**May 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker at the 28th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Air Force in Nichols Air Base this morning and at the opening of the Fourth National Labor-Management Congress at the University of the East this afternoon.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President was accorded military honors, including a 21-gun salute, upon his arrival at the NAB this morning. Then the President mounted a stand from where he viewed a composite regiment of the PAF which passed in review in his honor.

Following the parade and review, the President and the First Lady were treated to a one-man air show performed by Bob Hoover, former American test pilot, with an F-86F Sabrejet plane.

Back at Malacañang at 11:45 a.m., the President led in the floral offerings in honor of the late Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos at the Palace social hall.

Speaking at the 28th adversary celebration of the Philippine Air Force at Nichols Air Base this morning, the President said that it will be a historic tribute to the virtue and constructive quality of imperialism if the three former colonies could be brought together despite their different colonial tutelage. Otherwise, he said, colonialism shall continue to be an indictment of the selfishness of brute might and the exploitation of weaker fellowmen.

The President said that Indonesia, Malaya, and the Philippines must learn how to live in peace and harmony among themselves not only because they belong to the same Malay race but also because they are stuck to one another by the will of God.

Because of this, he said neither ideology nor any other obstacle “will long hinder an affinity of effort and purpose on the part of these peoples.”

The President paid tribute to the officers and men of the Philippines Air Force who he said had fought valiantly in defense of freedom not only here but even in foreign countries.

He mentioned Barsa, Gozar, Villamor, Julian, and Paredes. Their heroism, he said, provided proof that the PAF exists not for this country alone for all nations who cherished democracy and freedom.

He also hailed the officers and men who joined the United Nations forces in keeping peace in the Congo as well as those paramedics who flew to Bali, Indonesia, to help the victims of the recent volcano eruption there.

Present at the ceremony were the First Lady, Mrs. Amanda Abad Santos, Mesdames J. Abad Santos Madrigal, and Luz Abad Santos Suntay, O. Abad Santos, Antonio Madrigal, Jose Madrigal, Juan Collas, and Dean and Mrs. Conrado Benitez.

The President then received Inche Mohamed Ghazali, permanent secretary for external affairs of Malaya, who presented him with a golf set, a gift from Malaya’s Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman, Ghazali was accompanied to Malacañang by Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado D. Cayco.

The President, together with the First Lady, motored to the University of the East in the afternoon where he addressed some 2,000 delegates to the Labor-Management Congress.

Mrs. Macapagal pulled the ceremonial ribbon releasing two doves from an iron cage, symbolizing peace between labor and management.

In the evening the President received Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta.

He also received Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently foreign affairs secretary, who arrived this morning after attending the recent SEATO meeting of foreign ministers in Paris and conferring with American officials in the United States.

President Macapagal has designated Dr. Juan Salcedo as acting chairman of the National Science Development Board, it was announced today at Malacañang.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., said the President made the designation after accepting yesterday, through Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, the resignation of Dr. Paulino Garcia as NSDB chairman.

The Malacañang spokesman said the acceptance was "effective immediately".

Dr. Garcia's letter of resignation was dated April 29.

Salcedo was presidential assistant on scientific matters before his designation as NSDB acting chairman.

Secretary Mariño's letter to Dr. Garcia was as follows:

"With reference to your letter dated April 29, 1963, tendering your resignation as Chairman of the National Science Development Board I wish to inform you that the President accepts the same effective immediately. Thank you for your services."

President Macapagal released today Proclamation No 106, declaring that the government has taken over the Talisay-Silay Milling Company in Negros Occidental.

**May 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today inducted into office Dr. Juan C. Salcedo as acting chairman of the National Science Development Board.

Dr. Salcedo replaced Dr. Paulino J. Garcia, who resigned as NSDB chairman last month.

In separate ceremonies the President also inducted Dr. Floro S. Dabu as acting undersecretary of health and medical services and Col. Gregorio San Agustin as member of the board of directors of the National Cottage Industry Development Authority. Dabu is concurrently chairman of the board of medical examiners.

This morning the President received some 2,300 men and women, including nine provincial delegations, in connection with the weekly "Common Man's Day."

Late this afternoon the President received several businessmen who exchanged views with him on business conditions. They were John R. Lehman, Gordon Calder, and Sam Seidman of the Lehman Brothers, who paid him a courtesy call; and Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Bilek, Yusin Uy and Samuel Y. Huang.

**May 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal gave assurances today that there will be an adequate supply of rice at reasonable prices during this year's lean months just as there was last year.

Addressing the people of barrio Bicutan, Taguig, Rizal, whom he visited this morning and also a rally of laborers and farmers at the Malacañang grounds this afternoon, the President told his listeners not to believe Administration critics' claims that the government won't be able for long to maintain enough supply of the staple food at low prices.

He reiterated his call for support and cooperation, saying that it would do well for the opposition to help the Administration instead of sowing discouragement and throwing roadblocks in the successful execution of its program.

The President said that his obsession is to uplift the lot of the masses of the people as was expected of him when they voted him to the presidency in spite of tremendous odds.

It is for these reasons, he said, that steps were being taken by his Administration to redeem the people from the mire of poverty, like the institution of decontrol, the adoption of the five-year socio-economic programs, and the establishment of the Emergency Employment Administration, the National Cottage Industries Authority, tenement housing, and a university for children of laborers and farmers.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President left for Bicutan, Taguig, at 8:45 o'clock this morning and was accorded an enthusiastic welcome by the townspeople led by Mayor Monico Tanyag.

During the rally at the site of the barrio lieutenants' resthouse in the barrio which he visited, the President was presented with a petition asking for the segregation of barrio Bicutan and some rice fields at present occupied by the barrio people from the McKinley Military Reservation and their subsequent sale to occupants.

Back at Malacañang about 12:40 o'clock in the afternoon, the Chief Executive found some 1,500 laborers and farmers who came to pledge their support to the President's socio-economic program and to express full endorsement of the land reform measure. They asked that no transition period be provided in the bill, as "it might only prove to be too late."

The laborers and farmers were led by Dean Jeremias Montemayor, national president of the Federation of Free Farmers; Vicente Rafael, president of the Philippine Labor Unity Movement; and Cipriano Malonzo, president of the Mindanao Federation of Labor.

With them were Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes and Land Tenure Administrator Jose Espino.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



## **President's Week in Review: May 5-11, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**May 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was guest speaker at the First Filipino Retailers Regional Conference held at the Fiesta Pavillion of the Manila Hotel this morning.

Waking up early this morning, the President had a light breakfast with Mrs. Macapagal. Then he spent some time reading the Sunday newspapers.

About 9 a.m., the President repaired to his private study where he went over the final draft of the speech he was to deliver before the retailers' conference at the Manila Hotel. He worked on his speech for about one hour.

Shortly after 11 a.m., the Chief Executive motored to the Manila Hotel! He was accompanied by Lt. Cdmr. David Cruz, naval aide.

The President, in his 30-minute speech, appealed to the retailers to cut down their profits so that the consuming public would not be burdened with high prices. He was introduced by Commerce Director Eliseo Quirino to more than 1,000 delegates and their guests, gathered at the conference hall.

The President and the First Lady heard mass at the Malacañang chapel in the afternoon.

**May 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred at breakfast today with Liberal members of the Senate, headed by Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, on vital Administration measures pending in both houses of Congress.

In his talks with the Senators the President stressed the necessity of congressional action on the bills so as to insure the successful prosecution of the Administration's socio-economic program.

Those present, aside from Marcos, were senators Estanislao Fernandez, Ambrosio Padilla, Camilo Osias, Maria Kalaw Katigbak, Manuel Manahan, Raul Manglapus, Mariano Jesus Cuenco, Rogelio de la Rosa, Eulogio Balao, and Francisco Rodrigo.

Following his meeting with the Senators, the President received provincial, city, and municipal officials who consulted him on various problems, including urgent public works projects, in their respective localities.

Those who met with the Chief Executive were Governors Telesforo Paredes of Palawan, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, Madki Alonto of Lanao del Norte, Claro Robles of Quezon, Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Sur, Melanio T. Singson of Isabela, Corazon Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Arsenio Villarosa of Occidental Mindoro, Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, Pedro Dizon of Bataan, and Dominador S. Asis of Camarines Norte; Mayor Liberato LI. Reyna of Dagupan; Councilor Sergio Loyola of Manila; and Mayor Bernardo Angara of Casiguran, Quezon.

In the course of his meeting with the local officials, the President received Paul Hardeman, president of the Paul Hardeman (Phil.) Inc., who paid him a courtesy call following his arrival yesterday from the United States. Hardeman's firm is undertaking the construction of the Angat Dam.

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady motored to the Mapa High School on San Rafael, where they were honor guests at the formal opening of the cottage industries training center. Mrs. Macapagal cut the ceremonial ribbon signalling the opening of the training center to the public.

Back at the Palace at 4:45 p.m., the President delegations from Isabela and Ilocos Norte led by Governors Melanio T. Singson and Jose Evangelista, respectively.

Other callers included Bulacan Vice-Gov. Jose Villarama, who asked the President for strict enforcement of the ban on the slaughter of carabaos, especially in his province, to conserve the supply of work animals. Villarama said that rampant cattle rustling has depleted the cattle supply in Bulacan.

In the evening the President conferred with AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Alfredo Santos and Brig. Gen. Ricardo Papa on the possibility of granting the request of the barrio folic of Bicutan in Taguig, Rizal, that their barrio and certain ricefields be segregated from the Fort McKinley military reservation.

The people of Bicutan submitted their segregation petition when the President visited their barrio last Saturday.

**May 7.**—THIS morning the President had breakfast with administration officials on the rice and corn situation. The Chief Executive took up with legislative leaders and Cabinet officials ways and means of stabilizing the price of the cereal which was reported to have gone up recently.

After this breakfast conference the President received Belgian Ambassador Albert Nyes, who paid him a farewell call preparatory to his departure for his new post at Caracas, Venezuela. The President also received Chinese Ambassador Tuan Mao Lan and Enrique Castells, consul honorem of the Philippines at Caracas.

President Macapagal this afternoon received the letter of credence of Ambassador Emile de Curton, new French envoy to the Philippines, in a ceremony held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall. The new ambassador was accompanied to Malacañang by Ambassador Pedro Aragon Angara.

After the presentation ceremony, the President presided over a meeting of his cabinet.

The Cabinet officially approved this evening the plan of Education Secretary Alejandro Roces to change the school calendar so that it would start in "September instead of June.

Approval of the Roces plan was made after Budget Commissioner Faustino Sychangco gave his assurance there would be funds to effect the change.

Under the plan, the school term would open on the first Monday of July and close in April. Next school term, school will open on the first Monday of August and in 1965 it will open on the first Monday of September.

The plan has to have financial support because of the additional vacation leaves of school teachers. Appropriation for the plan had been included in the budget, Sychangco told the Cabinet.

During the Cabinet meeting Economic Coordinator Cornelio Balmaceda also took his oath as acting secretary of commerce, vice Secretary Rufino Hechanova, who left the other day for Thailand and Burma.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation reserving for municipal building and plaza sites parcels of land of the public domain situated in Koronadal, Cotabato, Malacañang announced today.

The Chief Executive, upon the recommendation of Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources Benjamin Gozon, proclaimed the withdrawal from sale or settlement of the specified parcels of land under the administration of the municipality of Koronadal.

The President summoned the 12 Liberal senators to an emergency conference at Malacañang this evening in the face of an impending Nacionalista counter-putsch in the Senate.

The President was attempting to quell at press time a rebellion within the Liberal Party on which the NPs plotted a return-to-power bid. following a surprise LP attempt to wrest full control of the Senate yesterday.

Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos, whose ouster from his 32-day reign in the chamber was the immediate NP objective, was reported to have succeeded earlier in mollifying rebellious LP senators.

The coalesced Nacionalista and Nationalist-Citizens group planned to set up recalcitrant Sen. Camilo Osias (LP) as new Senate chieftain in place of Marcos, and Sen. Lorenzo M. Tañada (NCP) as president protempore.

Osias accepted yesterday noon the NP offer to elect him as Senate president. It was gathered that the offer and the acceptance were unconditional.

The NP plot to install a new LP Senate President was born out of anger that ensued over Marcos' alleged "high handedness and arbitrary rulings" during Monday's filibuster of the Nacionalista.

**May 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred at breakfast today with members of Congress and the Cabinet on urgent legislative measures still pending in both houses of Congress. He stressed once more the need for enacting certain bills intended to give the necessary push to the Administration's socio-economic program.

Present at the conference were 45 members of the Lower House headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Cabinet secretaries led by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, and other Administration officials. In the course of the meeting, the President swore in Speaker Villareal as president of the Philippine Parliamentary Group, the local chapter of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Following the conference, the President received officials of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority (NAWASA) who submitted a recommendation for a P160 million crash program of improvement designed to relieve the critical water situation in Manila and the suburbs.

In the afternoon the President received British Ambassador and Mrs. John Pilcher and Israeli Ambassador and Mrs. Yehiel Ilsar, who called to say goodbye prior to their departure next week.

Ambassador Pilcher is enplaning for home after more than three and a half years tour of duty here to assume the position of undersecretary in the British ministry of information, while Ambassador Ilsar is leaving for his new post in Bangkok after about three years of assignment here.

Later in the afternoon the President presided over his regular weekly press conference.

The President today again defended the world tour of his three children and said it is compatible with his policy of simple living. At his regular press conference the President denied that his three children, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr., were traveling in luxury and hit back at his detractors for their "desperate and vicious attempt to smear" him and the members of his family.

The President defined his concept of "simple living in order that these political and malicious criticisms against us may be put in their proper light." He defined simple living as meaning "frugal and dignified living within one's means without being wasteful or extravagant and shabby."

At his weekly press conference the President also:

1. Expressed pessimism over the enactment of majority of his administration measures and blamed the Senate as the "main bottleneck" to the passage of these bills;
2. Assured the people of sufficient stocks of canned milk within a few months' time when local production of the "recommended" category starts;
3. Denied knowledge of an attempted Nacionalista-Liberal putsch to depose Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos the other day;

4. Said he will act shortly on the plan to legalize gambling in the country; and

5. Announced that negotiations are under way to draft a provisional agreement with Japan for the continuation of trade pending Senate action on the proposed treaty of amity, navigation, and commerce.

**May 9**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was keynote speaker today at the opening of the 55th annual convention of the Philippine Dental Association held at the University of the East auditorium. In his speech the President decried the lack of dentists in many parts of the country, especially in the rural areas, and pledged the support of his administration to any move aimed at remedying the situation.

The Chief Executive was introduced by Dr. Bienvenido B. Eraña, president of the association.

Following the President's address, the First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon opening the commercial and scientific exhibits being held in connection with the convention.

In the afternoon the President received 14 groups of businessmen who took up with him various problems concerning their business ventures. He also received DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, who reported on his recent trip to Washington.

A business-minded schoolteacher, Mrs. Elena L. de la Cruz, from Torres High School in Manila said she intends to put up a tire recapping and rubber reclaiming plant.

Mrs. De la Cruz said that her project has been on the take-off stage for one and one-half years now, and if her loan application with the Development Bank of the Philippines for P600,000 would be approved, her project would be underway. The DBP, Mrs. De la Cruz said, was willing to lend her only P250,000 which would not be sufficient for a start.

The President directed DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo to see if the requested loan was possible, and added in a light vein that "generally, teachers are very good risks." He also congratulated Mrs. De la Cruz for her enterprise in engaging in business.

Other callers asked government relaxation of credit to Filipino retailers. On behalf of Filipino retailers, Rogerio Lagman of San Juan, Rizal, deplored what he considered were hard and strict terms of the Small Loans Department of the Philippine National Bank. The unfavorable terms, he said, consist of limited loans, limited time for payment, high installments, interest for unexpired terms, and "usurious" fines on delinquent installments.

Gordon Wesley, president of the Philippine Premium Products, Inc., came to inform the Chief Executive that his firm is putting up a pineapple growing and processing plant with a capital investment of P20 million. Wesley said that the products of the plant would be for export.

The President received his businessmen-callers from 4:45 to 5:45 p.m.

The Chief Executive later met with the "Citizen's Day" staff to discuss ways and means of improving his weekly reception of private citizens on Fridays.

**May 10.**—THIS morning the President received some 6,000 "Common Man's Day" callers, the largest so far to see the President since he started seeing the general public every Friday.

Among these who saw the President were 3,500 residents of the 57-hectare estate owned by the late Maria B. Castro; a delegation led by Salvador M. Buazon, president of the *Samahan ng mga Naninirahan sa Bagong Barrio, Inc.*, accompanied by Land Tenure Administrator Jose Espino; Peregrino Taruc, a Huk indictee; Carlos McCakeren; Capt. Jose O. Sta. Romana, president of the Toro Hills Home Owners Association, Inc.; and Project 7 residents headed by Mrs. Pilar F. Tengco and accompanied by Roland E. Villacorte.

This noon the President received a delegation of ranking labor leaders who came with an offer to mediate in the current strike in Port Area.

The group was accompanied to Malacañang by Acting Secretary of Labor Bernardino Abes, Secretary of Finance Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., and Customs Commissioner Norberto Romualdez.

It was agreed during the meeting that there would be a complete withdrawal of troops from arrastre work but they will remain in the customs zone to maintain peace and order.

In the labor delegation were Ignacio Lacsina (NATU), secretary general of the Philippine Labor Center; Jose J. Hernandez, secretary general of the Philippine Trade Unions Council; Eulogio Lerum, president of the National Labor Union; Antonio Policarpio, acting treasurer of KMP; Emilio Saño, president of the Philippine Air Lines Employees Association; Henry Santos, president of the Communications Workers Association; and Ricardo Manalad, president of the Arrastre Port Checkers Union.

They assured the President that there would be a peaceful settlement of the strike. They said they would confer with Roberto Oca, leader of the striking workers, to explain “for the purpose of keeping good relations” the government’s side to him. The labor leaders promised to make a report on Monday on the outcome of their conversations with Oca.

Secretary Abes and Secretary Perez told the President that since Secretary of Justice Juan R. Liwag had ruled that customs arrastre work is a government function, the Bureau of Customs would act to enforce that opinion. He added that while the case is pending in the Court of Industrial Relations, the government would operate in accordance with Liwag’s ruling.

At the same time they informed the President that the men who were reporting for work were not scabs but non-striking Customs employees who were willing to work.

This afternoon President Macapagal conferred a citation on Spurgeon M. Keeny, director of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) for Asia. The presidential citation was given this afternoon at Malacañang by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño in representation of the Chief Executive.

The citation was in recognition of Mr. Keeny’s representations before the executive board of the UNICEF and the officials of the UN on behalf of the children and mothers of the Philippines. The representations made by Keeny brought about numerous benefits and needed supplies to the country.

President Macapagal left suddenly at 3:30 this afternoon for a week-end at the Philippine Navy beach resort in Poro Point, La Union. He was expected to arrive at the beach resort at 8:30 this evening.

**May 11.**—PRESIDENT Diosdado Macapagal spent the day today working on state papers at the presidential cottage in Poro Point, La Union. The President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored into this naval station last night.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Parungao, Jr., said the President went to Poro Point to be able to concentrate on the more important matters which need his immediate attention and, at the same time, have a quiet weekend.

The President did not receive callers the whole day.

President Macapagal issued today Administrative Order No. 59, creating a committee to take charge of preparations for the nationwide celebration of the 76th Philippine Independence Day on June 12.

The committee is to be headed by Education Secretary Alejandro Roces and is composed of the following: Defense Undersecretary as vice-chairman; Undersecretary of Labor; Deputy Administrator of Economic Coordination; Malacañang Press Secretary; Deputy Commissioner of the Budget; City Mayor of Manila; Director of Public

Libraries; Director of the National Museum; Consulting Architect, Bureau of Public Works; President, Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities (PACU); President, National Press Club of the Philippines; President, Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines; Lamberto V. Avellana; Manuel Collas; and the Presidential Protocol Officer.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: May 12-18, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**May 12.**—President woke up early this morning and read the papers before resuming his work, poring over statepapers. At noon he and the First Lady played host to Malacañang newsmen at the presidential resthouse.

After lunch the First Couple rested, heard mass, and motored back to Manila.

The President was in a jolly mood as he answered questions from the newsmen and gave off-the-record backgrounders on the issues of the day. He said he had found in Poro Point an atmosphere conducive to study and meditation.

President Macapagal and the First Lady returned to Malacañang late this afternoon after spending a restful weekend in Poro Point, a beach resort off San Fernando, La Union.

**May 13.**—THIS morning the President; conferred with Administration officials concerned with the strike at the customs area. He directed them to resolve the controversy in the piers.

Present at the conference were Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes, and Assistant Executive Secretary Jovino Lorenzo.

Towards noontime the President motored to the Eugene's Restaurant in Cubao, Quezon City, where he was guest of honor and speaker at the closing ceremonies of the two-day 6th annual convention of the Philippine Association of Private Secondary Schools.

He was fetched from Malacañang by Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces and introduced by Angeles Santos, association president.

Early this afternoon the Chief Executive met with four provincial governors, three city mayors, and some minor local officials on various matters concerning their respective localities.

President Macapagal told Government prosecutors today to take expeditious action on significant cases like those involving life and death.

The prosecutors who were led by Fiscal Sixto Domondon, president of the Government Prosecutors League, were accompanied to Malacañang and Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag this afternoon.

The President also received a group of government auditors led by Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, who presented him with a plaque "in appreciation and admiration for his deep concern in the independence of the General Auditing Office and the cause of good government in our country."

In his talks with the auditors, the President told them to delegate responsibilities in order to avoid too much red tape in the auditing service.

President Macapagal left this evening for Sorsogon where he will open the Regional Fair for Southern Luzon today.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, left by special presidential train from the Sta. Mesa railroad station scheduled to reach Legazpi City early this morning. From Legazpi, the President will motor to Sorsogon where he will inaugurate the fair.

**Man 14**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Sorsogon, Sorsogon, at 10 this morning accompanied by Gov. Juan Frivaldo, who led a large crowd that met the Chief Executive and the First Lady in Locate (formerly Daraga), Albay, where the presidential party got off a special train from Manila.

The President arrived with Press Secretary Leoncio Parungao, Jr., Industry Undersecretary Benjamin Tabios, and Manila Railroad officials, headed by Chairman Simeon Medalla, who were invited to urge the administration to push through the extension of the railway lines to Sorsogon.

Also on hand in Locsin town were Albay Gov. Jose Estevez and Mayor Luis Los Baños of Legazpi City.

Upon arrival in Sorsogon, the President and the First Lady attended a *Te Deum*, Later the Chief Executive conferred with Sorsogon officials and mayors of the different towns.

In a speech before government officials, the President paid tribute to the First Lady, saying that it was Mrs. Macapagal who had helped him become President. He also praised Frivaldo and Rep. Salvador Encinas (L-Sorsogon) for their “patriotism” in joining the Liberal Party. The two officials were former Nacionalista leaders.

After luncheon at the governor’s residence, President Macapagal met Malacañang newsmen who accompanied him for a brief press conference. He later motored to Gubat town where he inducted some 1,000 former Nacionalistas to the Liberal Party.

The President, witnessed the start of the Southern Luzon Regional Fair, which the First Lady officially opened by cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

The Macapagals motored back to Locsin where late this evening they boarded a special train for Manila. They are scheduled to arrive in Manila early tomorrow morning.

President Macapagal has issued an executive order providing for the collection of material, historical and cultural relics, and for compilation of historical and cultural data regarding barrios, municipalities, cities, and provinces of the Philippines, it was announced today.

The executive order urged provincial governors and city mayors of every province and city to submit information and materials of historical value to the Director of National Library or to the Director of the National Museum not later than December 31, this year.

**May 15**.—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received a reassurance from House leaders that all-out efforts would be exerted to enact vital Administration measures during the few remaining days of the regular session of Congress. He received the reassurance during a breakfast conference with 41 congressmen at Malacañang this morning.

The congressmen were headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal and Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun.

During the conference, the President thanked the solons for passing his land reform bill. He also pledged support to a measure passed by both houses of Congress providing for the establishment of a Philippine science high school.

Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, who headed members of the Cabinet present at the conference, disclosed that a UN FAO expert, A.B.D. Menon, would arrive shortly to help in scientific research, particularly in the control of *cadang-cadang*, which is plaguing the local coconut industry. The Vice-President said lie would arrange a series of meetings between the UN expert and members of national science bodies to discuss local scientific problems.

Following the conference the President administered the oath of office to Fernando Monleon, former councilor of Manila, as assistant director of the Institute of National Language.



The Chief Executive also conferred with the presidential land reforms committee headed by Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes and then with Foreign Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez, who reported on his recent trip to Washington and the Hague.

In the afternoon the President motored to Ermita where he inaugurated the First United Bank on San Luis and A. Mabini Streets. He was accompanied by the First Lady, who cut the ceremonial ribbon at the bank's vault.

In the evening the President held his regular weekly press conference at Malacañang.

The reported importation of rice from Thailand and Burma took on an air of mystery today as President Macapagal tacked it to national security.

The President, at his weekly press conference, said he would not be able to talk about the matter until Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., had submitted a report to him.

He said that he conferred with Jose Feliciano, general manager of the Rice and Corn Administration today, and was informed there was no reason to fear that the price of rice would go up. The abundance of rice in the country, the President said, was confirmed by Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon.

The President said Feliciano attributed the apparent scarcity of the staple to inadequate distribution facilities but that he gave assurance that the problem would be solved in a matter of days.

During the press conference, the President also:

1. Expressed gratification over the approval by the Lower House of his land reform bill designed to abolish the land tenancy system in this country; and
2. Took exception to the charge that he practiced nepotism with the employment of his relatives in the government.

Asked to comment on reports that the bill approval by the Lower House was a "watered-down" version of his land reform bill, the President said he was assured by leaders of Congress who saw him yesterday morning that the reports were not true.

On the charge that he was practising nepotism, the President said that some of his relatives had been in the government service before he was elected President.

To his way of thinking, he said, this could not be called nepotism because he did not place them in the government.

**May 16.**—ON this "Businessman's Day" President Macapagal received 14 groups of businessmen, with most of the groups reporting plans to export various products made out of local waste materials.

The President, aided by Assistant Executive Secretary Jovino S. Lorenzo, met with the businessmen from 10:30 o'clock in the morning to 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

Later in the afternoon the Chief Executive received Indian Ambassador M. S. Sait and Eric Stevenson, president of the Junior Chamber International, on courtesy calls. Ambassador Sait is leaving for New Delhi next week for consultations, while Stevenson arrived recently in the course of a tour of Asia.

Stevenson was accompanied in his call on the President by Jose Morada, president of Junior Chamber of the Philippines (JCP); Ramon Bitong, JCP vice-president; Aurelio Periquet, Jr., president of the Manila Jaycees; and Alfredo Lingad, JCP vice-president for Luzon.

After a brief talk with Stevenson, the President repaired to the Council of State room where he presided over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

President Macapagal created this evening two Cabinet committees to study ways of eliminating red tape in the government.

Creation of the two bodies was made following a report on red tape made by Presidential Assistant Eleuterio Adevosio at the Cabinet meeting.

One committee, headed by Sixto Roxas III, will look into disbursing system in the government. Named to the committee with him were Budget Commissioner Faustino SyChangco and Auditor General Pedro Gimenez.

The other committee will look into public bidding problems which also caused a lot of red tape. The committee will be composed of representatives of the General Auditing Office, the Department of Justice, and the President's Office.

**May 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had a hectic day today attending to a total of 1,532 persons who called on him on "Common Man's Day" at Malacañang.

The presidential callers who came singly or in groups were received by the Chief Executive in his study and in the social hall from 8:30 o'clock in the morning up to 2:45 o'clock in the afternoon, with the President taking short breaks every now and then for soup and cookies.

After having a late lunch the President rested about an hour, after which he presented awards of merit, honesty, and integrity to five exemplary officials and employees of the government,

Recipients of the awards were Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., RCA Chairman Jose Y. Feliciano, DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, Director Apolonio F. Rivera of the Bureau of Supply, and Patrocinio Tiongson of the Philippine Railway Company in Iloilo.

Then the President went to his study room where he started working on his speech which he will deliver at his radio-television chat this evening.

**May 18.**—THIS morning the President approved a proposal made by Speaker Cornelio Villareal for the calling of a meeting of the LP national committee to thresh out pressing problems of the party.

The Speaker made the proposal in the course of a breakfast conference at Malacañang this morning. He said he would discuss the move with Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, party president.

The President left it up to them to set the date of the meeting and to work out other details.

The Speaker suggested that the meeting be held after the current regular session of the Congress. He said that the meeting could take up important party problems, including disputes in the provinces. Present at the conference was Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño.

After the breakfast the Chief Executive closeted himself in his private study where he worked on his radio-TV speech.

This evening the President delivered his 13th radio-television chat from Malacañang.

Entitled "The President Speaks to the People," the message was simulcast "live" by four television networks and 10 radio stations, including two shortwave stations which fed provincial stations.

The Chief Executive promised to pick up a snowballing issue raised by the Nacionalistas, and expose Stone-hill's activities before the latter's deportation.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation setting aside the period from June 1 to July 15 this year for the 15th annual educational and fund campaign of the Community Chest, it was announced by Malacañang today.

The Chief Executive issued the proclamation "to enable the Community Chest to carry on its community welfare services" in the Greater Manila area. In his proclamation the President called upon all residents of the cities of Manila, Quezon, Pasay, and Caloocan and the municipalities of Makati, Malabon, Mandaluyong, Navotas, Parañaque, and San Juan, Rizal to give full support to the campaign and contribute generously to the fund drive.

The Community Chest unites into one annual appeal the fund campaign of 17 welfare agencies and their subsidiaries operating in Manila and the suburbs.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: May 19-25, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**May 19.**—THIS morning the President did not receive callers but worked on state papers.

Towards noon, he and the First Lady heard mass at the Palace chapel. President Macapagal and the First Lady visited the Central Luzon Commercial and Industrial Fair and Exposition being held in San Fernando, Pampanga.

They left Malacañang at 3:20 o'clock this afternoon. They were fetched from the Palace by Secretary Hechanova.

While touring the booths the First Couple took their time admiring the various displays of regional products put up by the participating provinces of Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac, and Zambales.

They also visited a P3,000 model farm house in the fair ground which was built by the Bureau of Agricultural Extension with native materials, and they viewed some relics of Maria Clara in the booth of Tarlac province.

The First Couple invariably commented "This is beautiful" and "It is good" as they looked over some home industries products on display.

At one instance the President turned to Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, who was with them, to say that the quality of cottage industries goods must be maintained at all times if they are to meet with local and foreign approval.

At the highway boundary of Apalit and San Fernando, they were met by a sizable crowd headed by Pampanga Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno and Commerce Director Eliseo Quirino.

From the fair, the President proceeded to the residence of former San Fernando Mayor Rodolfo Hizon in barrio San Agustin where he had a *merienda*.

The Chief Executive was back at Malacañang at 7:30 o'clock in the evening.

**May 20.**—THIS morning President Macapagal held his weekly breakfast conference at Malacañang with members of the Senate to discuss vital Administration measures pending in Congress. The President has been meeting senators and congressmen regularly during these few remaining days of the session to press for enactment of measures essential to the implementation of the five-year socio-economic program.

Present at the conference this morning were Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, and Senators Estanislao Fernandez, Ambrosio Padilla, Camilo Osias, Manuel P. Manahan, Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo, Maria Kalaw Katigbak, Gaudencio Antonino, Mariano J. Cuenco, and Eulogio Balao.

Following the conference, the President received delegates to the five-day meeting of Asian chief justices opening in Baguio tomorrow. Accompanied by Chief Justice Cesar P. Bengzon and Associate Justice Roberto Regala, the delegates who paid a courtesy call to the President were Chief Justices Sir James Thompson of Malaya, Cheh Ying-chou of China, Dhuvaneswari R. Brasat of Shinhwa of India, D. Dattabongse of Thailand, A. R. Cornelius of Pakistan, and Senior Judge Nguyen Thon Thai of Vietnam.

The President welcomed the foreign delegates and offered whatever assistance they might need to make their conference a success. He also expressed hope that the foreign jurists would have a pleasant stay in this country.

The First Lady meanwhile, was presented with the first tin of Carnation evaporated milk produced in this country. The presentation was made by Frederick Huber, general sales manager of Carnation Company (Philippines), at Malacañang this morning.

The Chief Executive also received this morning provincial governors and city mayors who called to consult him on problems in their respective localities.

In the afternoon the President conferred with Gen. Carlos P. Romulo, president of the University of the Philippines, who had just returned from abroad.

Romulo, reporting on his U.S. visit, informed the President that he obtained from the Ford and Rockefeller Foundation P4, 437,480 as scholarship and fellowship grants for this year. The amount will be used by the state university.

The President also received Secretary of Education Alejandro R. Roces, who brought along for the President's, signature a deed of donation of the residence of Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo in Kawit, Cavite. The President's signature on the deed is necessary to complete the transaction.

General Aguinaldo is donating his property to the Philippine Government as a token of gratitude for the proclamation of June 12 as Philippine Independence Day.

The President issued today a proclamation declaring June 12 this year as Philippine Independence Day.

In declaring the special public holiday, the President recalled that the establishment of the Philippine Republic by the Revolutionary Government under General Emilio Aguinaldo on June 12, 1898, marked "our people's declaration and exercise of their right to self-determination, liberty, and independence."

"Such a historic and inspiring action was a legitimate assertion by the Filipino nation of their natural and inalienable claim to freedom and independence, which is an inherent right of every people not dependent upon the will and discretion of another," the Chief Executive added.

The President urged all national, provincial, city, and municipal officials throughout the country to make arrangements in their respective localities for the appropriate celebration of the occasion.

**May 21.**—SUKARNO'S brief stopover in Manila was among matters taken up at a two-hour Malacañang conference this morning with Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez. The conference, which lasted from 10:30 a.m. through lunch, took up foreign policy matters.

Shortly before 11 a.m. the President took time out from the conference to meet briefly with Auditor General Pedro Gimenez. The Auditor General called at Malacañang to say goodbye prior to his departure for abroad.

President Macapagal will have breakfast at Malacañang with Indonesian President Sukarno during the latter's brief stopover here en route to Tokyo Thursday morning, May, 23. The Philippine Chief Executive will personally welcome Sukarno when he arrives at the Manila International Airport at 5:30 a.m.

The Indonesian President will be on a three-week vacation trip to Japan, Austria, and Rome.

The two heads of state will motor to Malacañang from the airport. After the breakfast President Macapagal will again see his distinguished guest off at the airport.

The President spent "the afternoon working on state papers

**May 22.**—THE President had a breakfast conference this morning with Congressional leaders headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villa-real and the members of the Cabinet led by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez on legislative matters.

In brief remarks before the members of the House and the Cabinet, the President thanked the Congressmen for their expeditious action on Administration measures vital to the implementation of his program of government. Present at the conference were 53 Congressmen and 16 Cabinet members and other Administration officials.

Shortly after the breakfast conference, the President signed into law two House bills passed by both chambers of Congress recently. They were H.B. 3514 and 3515. The first amended Republic Act No. 1162, providing for the expropriation of landed estates in Manila while the second measure provides for the establishment of a general hospital in Sampaloc, Manila.

The President also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Speaker Villareal of five opposition leaders from Sulu led by Vice-Gov. Hadji Arsad Sali. The other new affiliates were Mayors Abdulhan Agga of Panamao, Abubakar Tan of Maimbung, Pittao Lim Eng of Cagayan de Sulu, and Hadji Mansal H. Harun of Sitangkai.

Then the President received Robert B. Klaverkamp, advertising director of the Reader's Digest, who presented the President with a special leather-bound copy of the April edition of the magazine in which was published an article entitled "Triumph of Democracy in the Philippines" by William Lederer. The presentation was made by Klaverkamp on behalf of the magazine's publisher, Dewitt Wallace.

Klaverkamp was accompanied to Malacañang by Counselor Rodolfo Nazareno of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

In the afternoon the President presided over his regular weekly press conference.

The President at the press conference said there was enough rice in the country to last until the next harvest season but still would neither confirm nor deny reports that the Philippines was importing rice from Thai land and Burma.

He told his weekly press conference that he believed the report of Rice and Corn Administration head Jose Feliciano that there was sufficient rice and that the price of the staple was going back to normal.

But when pressed to confirm reports that Defense Undersecretary Alberto de Joya had signed an agreement for the importation of 50,000 tons of rice, the President said De Joya's mission to Thailand and Burma involved national security and that he was still in no position to discuss it.

During the press conference the President also:

1. Ruled out the possibility of making a state visit to any country this year;
2. Said he was "still hoping against hope" that Congress would pass his bills implementing his socio-economic program but that he had given up hope his appointments would be confirmed by Congress;
3. Confirmed that he had recalled Ambassador Amelito Mutuc, Philippine envoy to the United States, "for consultations."

**May 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal honored today Indonesian President Sukarno at a Malacañang breakfast early this morning following the latter's arrival on a three-hour stopover en route to Tokyo.

In their talk at the breakfast table, the two Presidents agreed to go ahead with preparations for a meeting of the heads of government of the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaya.

Also present at the breakfast conference were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez concurrently foreign affairs secretary, and Indonesian First Deputy Prime Minister Dr. J. Leimema, Second Deputy First Minister of Foreign Affairs Raden Subandrio, and Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak.

The President left Malacañang about 6 o'clock this morning in time to meet personally the Indonesian President, who arrived 6:12 a.m., 42 minutes behind schedule, on board a chartered Garuda Indonesian Airways four-turbojet plane.

After the sleek airliner pulled to a stop, Ambassador Pedro Aragon Angara, protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs, and Ambassador Pamontjak went up the plane to fetch President Sukarno.

Sukarno emerged from the plane dressed in his grey military uniform with his characteristic dark glasses and swagger stick. President Macapagal and Sukarno shook hands and bear-hugged each other in greeting.

Also on hand to welcome Sukarno were Vice-President Pelaez and other government officials, members of the diplomatic corps led by Mons. Salvatore Siino, papal nuncio, and members of the Indonesian community.

After a round of handshaking and exchange of greetings with the welcomes at the airport, the two Presidents motored together to Malacañang for the breakfast conference. A joint statement was issued by the two Chiefs of State after their talks.

Shortly before leaving Malacañang, Sukarno was presented with a light grey *barong tagalog* by the President and the First Lady, as a parting gift. The President then accompanied Sukarno to the airport.

After thanking President Macapagal and his other welcomers, the Indonesian President boarded his chartered plane at 9:25 a.m. for the resumption of his trip to Japan.

In the afternoon the Presidents worked on state papers and followed development in Congress on its last day of regular sessions this year.

**May 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received 1,200 “Common Man’s “Day” callers at Malacañang.

Assisted by the First Lady and some 20 Palace assistants, the President received the callers in his study and at the social hall from 8:30 o'clock in the morning up to 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

Among the matters brought to the attention of the President were claims for backpay payment, releases of forest reservations and funds for community development projects, expropriation of landed estates, and complaints against public and private entities,

A former student of his, Francisco S. Bonifacio, joined the long line of callers to ask him for his grade in a subject he took under him while the Chief Executive was on the UST faculty.

After resting for some time, the President worked on state papers.

**May 25.**—THE President spent this day working on state papers. The Chief Executive started the day by reading the morning news papers- After breakfast he closeted himself in his private study and started working.

President Macapagal stayed in Malacañang the whole day today and received some unscheduled callers, mostly Congress leaders who took up his plan of calling Congress to a special session.

Informed Malacañang sources said that Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, and Senator Manuel P. Manahan were among those who saw the Chief Executive in the Palace.

It was indicated that these Congress leaders discussed with the President plans of calling Congress to a special session.

The President signed several appointments of officials whose *ad interim* nominations were not acted upon by the Commission on Appointments during the last day of the 100-day regular session.

After taking a brief *siesta* in the afternoon, the Chief Executive continued work on state papers until early in the evening.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



## **President's Week in Review: May 26 - June 1, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**May 26**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today headed thousands of Catholic devotees who motored to Antipolo, Rizal, for the annual Maytime pilgrimage to the Blessed Virgin of Peace and Good Voyage.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President left Malacañang at 10:30 a.m. and took the circuitous route through the Victoria Valley sub division in Marikina, Rizal, to avoid the congested traffic during Sundays to the Antipolo church.

Upon reaching Antipolo, the President and the First Lady went direct to the famous church of the Blessed Virgin of Peace and Good Voyage. They greeted thousands of Catholic devotees who went to the church and then joined them at a late morning mass.

After hearing mass the President and the First Lady left for Malacañang and readied the Palace at 1 p.m.

After a brief afternoon rest, the President worked on state papers. He went over a memorandum submitted by Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag on whether or not the President may use the old budget for the operation of the government at the beginning of the next fiscal year owing to the failure of Congress to approve the Administration's proposed 1964 budget.

In the evening the President and the First Lady enjoyed a movie at the Palace theater (also known as the Malacañang state dining room).

**May 27.**—EARLY this morning the Chief Executive received Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, and Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño.

President Macapagal also conferred this morning with 11 provincial governors and four city mayors on local problems, including the release of funds for various public works projects.

In the course of his meeting with the local officials, the President witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party, by Bataan Gov. Pedro Dizon, of Numeriano Quindoy. NP gubernatorial candidate in Bataan in the last elections.

In the afternoon the President received senators led by Senate President Marcos.

Other callers included Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia. Defense Secretary Macario Peralta. Jr., and PIA Director-General Sixto K. Roxas.

Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño released today the reappointment by President Macapagal of some 400 government officials whose nominations were not acted upon for lack of time, by the Commission on Appointments during the last regular session of Congress.

The reappointed officials included eight Cabinet secretaries, 10 under secretaries. 40 colonels and navy captains in the Armed Forces, chairman and members of the board of government corporations, directors and assistant directors of bureaus, chiefs and assistant chiefs of government agencies and provincial, city and municipal officials.

The reappointments took effect at midnight of May 23 when the original appointments expired upon the adjournment of the last congressional session.

Among the reappointed local officials were 15 vice-governors and members of provincial boards: 13 city councilors, engineers, health officers, school superintendents and chiefs of fire departments; and 125 municipal mayors, vice-mayors, and councilors.

The reappointed Cabinet members were Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. R. Valencia, Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, Labor Secretary Norberto Rornufildez, Jr., Health Secretary Francisco Q. Duque, Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, and OEC Administrator Manuel Cuenco.

Bernardino Abes was also re-designated acting secretary of labor.

Among the reappointments in the Armed Forces were those of Lt. Gen. Alfredo M. Santos as chief of staff, Maj. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina as vice-chief of staff, Commodore Juan Magluyan of the Navy, and nine brigadier generals.

**May 28.**—SENATE President Ferdinand E. Marcos saw the President this morning and sought a vote of confidence among the Liberals senators following reports that some of his colleagues were plotting to depose him from the Senate leadership.

This evening the President conferred with Liberal Sen. Gaudencio Antonina, key figure in the Senate rebellion during the last hours of the “*sine die*” session last Friday morning.

The Chief Executive summoned the Nueva Ecija-Davao senator to the Palace in an effort to unify the majority senators and insure the passage of the Administration’s P2 billion budget in the event of a special session.

Up to press time this evening, no official Malacañang announcement was available on the Macapagal-Antonino conference.

President Macapagal received this morning the top officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines led by Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Alfredo Santos who called at Malacañang to thank him for renewing their appointments following the failure of the Commission on Appointments to act on them.

In his brief talk with the AFP officers, the President said that the Army should not be the subject of any political tug-of-war.

They were accompanied in their call on the President by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr. and Defense Undersecretary Alberto de Joya.

Following his meeting with the Army officers, the President received Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova who reported on the trade mission to Indonesia which he headed. Hechanova arrived this morning with five other members of the RP trade mission.

The Chief Executive spent part of the day working on the draft of a speech he was scheduled to deliver on Thursday.

**May 29.**—THE President this morning directed Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia to open the railway bridge in Calumpit to vehicular traffic instead of re-routing vehicles from the Calumpit bridge, which is undergoing repair, by way of Cabiao and Lupao, Nueva Ecija. The President issued the order to avoid delay in travel and discomfort to commuters that will result from a re-routing of traffic through the two Nueva Ecija towns.

Under the questioned detour plan, vehicles coming from the provinces of Zambales, Bataan, Tarlac, and Pampanga will take the San Fernando road via Caviao, while those coming from Pangasinan and other Luzon provinces will take the road from Villasis, Pangasinan, to Lupao.

In another move this morning the President directed Presidential Assistant on Public Works Manuel Feliciano to make an estimate of costs for the construction of some 200 kilometers of road that will link Cagayan. Mountain

Province, and Ilocos Norte with a view to its construction soon. The President issued the directive following a conference on the project this morning with Reps. Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan and Alfredo Lumen of Mountain Province.

The proposed road will start from Enrile in Cagayan through Tabuk in Isabela, Kabugao, and Bayag in Mountain Province up to Solsona. Ilocos Norte.

The President today designated Col. Abenir Bornales, chief of police of Caloocan City, as chief of police of Pasay City. He also designated Col. Dominador M. Danan, former acting governor of Pampanga, as chief of police of Caloocan City, vice Col. Bornales.

The two chiefs of police took their oaths of office before Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño at Malacañang this afternoon.

President Macapagal today held a series of conferences with some 25 members of Congress on problems affecting their respective districts.

In the afternoon the President met with Senators Gaudencio Antonino, Manuel P. Manahan, Raul Manglapus, and Camilo Osias.

Later, the President inducted J. Cezar Sangco as acting City Judge of Manila. Present at the induction ceremony held in the President's study were the immediate members of the inductee's family.

Following the induction of Sangco, the President presided over his regular weekly press conference.

President Macapagal said today he would decide "in a few days whether he would call Congress to a special session or not." He told his weekly press conference he still held to the principle that a special session should be called only when it was "unavoidable," but would not elaborate on the term.

Asked if the lack of a new national budget would make a special session unavoidable, the President said he was still studying the situation to see if it could come under the term.

During the press conference the President also:

1. Said he did not feel "left out" when President Sukarno of Indonesia and Malayan Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman scheduled a meeting in Tokyo tomorrow on the question of the establishment of a Federation of Malaysia; and
2. Denied there was a move to revise the list of Liberal Party senatorial candidates and reiterated confidence that his party would win seven if not all of the senatorial seats to be contested in the coming elections.

At the same time, the President denied knowledge of any L.P. bloc in the Senate which would like to unseat Senate President Ferdinand Marcos.

The President, commenting on the supposed move of the Antonino group, said he was confident that disagreements among the members of his party would be threshed out to the satisfaction of everyone.

President Macapagal today expressed heartfelt sympathy over the untimely death of Orville E. Dryfoos, *New York Times* president and publisher.

In a cablegram sent to Arthur Hays Sulzberger through the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Chief Executive said "we mourn the untimely death of your distinguished president and publisher who was a friend of the Filipino people."

Malacañang announced today the appointment of Romeo S. Busuego as the new Philippine Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Pakistan. He replaces Ambassador Jose Alejandrino, who has been reassigned to Paris.

Until his appointment, Busuego was counsellor on political and cultural affairs, of the Department of Foreign Affairs, which position he assumed in 1962.

**May 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met at breakfast today with the LP executive committee for the purpose of threshing out intraparty differences and to determine the manner of selecting the Liberal Party senatorial candidates.

Present at the four-hour conference were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently foreign affairs secretary. Senate President Ferdinand Marcos. Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal. Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun. Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano: Senators Ambrosio Padilla. Camilo Osias, Maria Kalaw-Katigbak. Rogelio de la Rosa, Gaudencio Antonino, and Manuel P. Manahan; Reps. Manuel Cases of La Union and Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur; Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Public Works. Secretary Brigido Valencia, OEC Administrator Manuel Cuenco, Presidential Executive Assistant Eleuterio Adevosio; Governors Eduardo L. Joson of Nueva Ecija and Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte; and Commissioner Hermenigildo Atienza and Legislative Secretary Manuel Concordia.

Following a brief rest after lunch, the President motored to the Manila International Airport, where he personally met Malayan Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman, who arrived at 3 o'clock this afternoon for a one-hour stop-over en route to Tokyo to meet with Indonesian President Ahmed Sukarno.

With Rahman on his arrival were Minister Khaw Kai Boh, Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Ghazali Shafie, Director of Information Services Mohamed Sopiee, Chief Protocol Officer Jamol Latiff, Assistant Commissioner of Police Salleh Abdul Rahman, Deputy Superintendent of Police M. Ahmad, Personal Secretary Nik Hassan, Datu Leslie Hoffman, editor-in-chief of the Straits Times, and Melan Abdullah, editor of the Utusan Malaya.

Also on hand to greet the Malayan leader were Vice-President Pelaez, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Salvador P. Lopez, and members of the diplomatic corps.

The President had an informal talk with Rahman for about 45 minutes.

Later in the afternoon the Chief Executive motored to the United States cemetery in Fort William McKinley, where he was guest of honor at the annual Memorial Day services.

**May 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received 1,172 "Common Man's Day" callers who trooped to Malacañang today to ask the President's assistance on various matters.

The Chief Executive attended to his callers continuously from 9 o'clock this morning up to 3:30 o'clock this afternoon in his study and at the social hall. He was assisted by the First Lady and a host of Malacañang assistants.

Later in the afternoon the President met with 30 groups of businessmen on matters affecting the business community, including requests for government financial assistance.

Typical of the callers was M. V. Arguelles, president of the Arguelles & Company, Inc., who requested the release of financial aid to his company by the Philippine Coconut Administration.

The requested financial aid, Arguelles said, will be used by his company for the establishment of proper business relations with foreign business firms, and for the conduct of further research on his company's products which include non-carbonated drinks made out of *tuba*. Arguelles presented the Chief Executive with samples of his company's bottler products, like Philippine Tuba Cider, Philippine Sweet Tuba Wine, Philippine Dry Tuba Wine, Philippine Sweet Tuba, Philippine Dry Tuba, and Philippine Coco-Champagne.

Another enterprising caller was Mrs. Zoila Alindogan of the Machinery and Engineering Supply, Inc., who asked that the job of floodlighting Malacañang be awarded to her firm.

In the course of his meeting with the businessmen, the President inducted Jose P. Marcelo, president of the Marcelo Steel Corporation, as member of the National Science Development Board (NSDB), representing industry. Present at Marcelo's induction were Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., Assistant Executive Secretary Jovino S. Lorenzo, and officials of the Marcelo firm.

Early in the evening the President inducted Romeo S. Busuego as Philippine Ambassador to Pakistan, vice Ambassador Jose Alejandrino who had been reassigned to Paris. The Chief Executive also inducted Hilarion Henares, Sr., and Gregorio San Agustin as chairman and member, respectively, of the National Cottage Industries Development (NACIDA).

**June 1.**—THE President spent a quiet day at Malacañang today working on state papers.

After a light breakfast with Mrs. Macapagal, the President early this morning closeted himself in his private study where he went over a pile of pending papers submitted to him by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño.

Among the papers were some advance copies of bills passed by both Houses of Congress during the last regular session.

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady motored to Makati, Rizal, where they stood as sponsors at the wedding of Anthony Fernandez and Criselda Lontok at the San Antonio de Padua church in Forbes Park.

The bridegroom is the son of Senator Estanislao Fernandez.

President Macapagal today designated Jose Y. Feliciano, head of the Rice and Corn Administration, as acting secretary of agriculture. He also named Deputy Budget Commissioner Amable Aguiluz, as acting commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Feliciano will take over temporarily from Secretary of Agriculture Benjamin Gozon, who will head the Philippine delegation to the World Food Congress to be held in Washington, D. C., June 4—18.

Aguiluz will act as BIR chief in the absence of Commissioner Jose B. Lingad, who is leaving shortly to survey the world market for Philippine tobacco, in his capacity as chairman of the Philippine Tobacco Board.

The President approved today the building by the Government Service Insurance System of low-cost housing units to be sold to squatters. More than 4,000 families stand to benefit from the presidential decision.

The President had earlier approved the recommendation of the committee to relocate 2,500 squatters from Manila to the GSIS property along the former railroad tracks from Pasig to Montalban and 1,800 families to Sapang Palay and other resettlement areas.

The President found the relocation areas suitable because of their proximity to Manila and centers of business activity, their accessibility to transportation, and their nearness to places where water and light facilities may be readily drawn.

In order not to aggravate the squatter problem any further, the Mariño committee has enjoined the Manila Railroad Company, the police agencies in Manila and the suburbs, and other government agencies concerned to put a stop to further squatting on public and private properties.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: June 2-8, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent most of the day today quietly working on state papers.

Early this morning the President stood as sponsor at the wedding of Jorge Tan, Jr., and Amparo A. Romualdez at the San Agustin church in Intramuros. The bride is the daughter of Commissioner and Mrs. Norberto Romualdez, Jr., of the Bureau of Customs.

Back at the Palace at past 9 a.m., the Chief Executive closeted himself in his private study and worked on a pile of state papers.

Toward noon the President and the First Lady motored to the Sto. Domingo church in Quezon City where they viewed the remains of Mrs. Emilio Aguinaldo.

After a brief siesta the President resumed work on state papers.

The President issued today a proclamation endorsing "Operation Respect the Centavo, a joint project of the Central Bank and local industries.

In his proclamation the Chief Executive called upon all citizens and residents of the Philippines, irrespective of nationality or creed, and all sectors of the economy, to lend a helping hand in realizing the project and enjoined them to cooperate in his effort to maintain the prices of goods, services, and facilities at reasonable levels and within the reach of the common people.

"Operation Respect the Centavo," the President pointed out, "in a project dedicated principally to the welfare and benefit of the great masses of breadwinners, especially the low-income group, who need to enjoy the full purchasing power of every centavo earned by them in order to properly feed, clothe and shelter their families."

In his directive the President also ordered that an amount of centavo coins be included in the payrolls of all government departments, bureaus, offices, agencies, and government-owned or controlled corporations. He urged private enterprises to accelerate and maintain the circulation of the centavo throughout the country.

**June 3.**—THIS morning President Macapagal received Admiral Harry D. Felt, United States Navy commander-in-chief in the Pacific and U. S. Ambassador Harold P. Jones, who paid him their respects in separate calls this morning.

Admiral Felt arrived yesterday afternoon en route to New Zealand to attend the Australia-New Zealand-United States (ANZUS) defense pact meeting at Wellington.

Ambassador Jones planed in Sunday night from Tokyo on his way to his post at Jakarta.

In the afternoon the President witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party of Mayor Eriberto Ramos of Sta. Maria, Bulacan, by Sen. Francisco Rodrigo. Mayor Ramos is president of the Bulacan Mayors' League.

Also present at the induction ceremony held in the President's study were Bulacan Vice-Gov. Jose Villarama and other political leaders of the province.

Other callers on the President were Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Agusan Gov. Democrito O. Plaza, and Davao City Mayor Carmelo Porras.

**June 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today met with the Liberal Party national committee at the “Heroes Hall” at Malacañang Park. The meeting, which was chairmanned by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, started at 11 o’clock in the morning and adjourned at 2:45 o’clock in the afternoon.

Present at the organization meeting, the first to be held since the majority party’s victory in the 1961 elections, were some 160 LP senators, congressmen, governors, vice-governors, and city mayors who reported on the present political situation in their respective areas.

In an after-luncheon speech the President urged the LP leaders to help push through the reform program of the Administration.

Earlier this morning the President received Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Pamontjak, who delivered to him a letter from President Ahmed Sukarno. The Indonesian envoy also took up with the Chief Executive the preparations for the forthcoming ministerial meeting among the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaya early this month.

In the afternoon the President administered the oath to RCA Chairman Jose Y. Feliciano as acting secretary of agriculture and national resources. Feliciano will take over temporarily from Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, who heads the Philippine delegation to the World Food Congress being held in Washington, D. C., June 4-18.

After swearing in Feliciano, the President presented to the RCA bust a service medal of merit which the latter failed to receive when the Chief Executive gave awards to other meritorious government officials and employees.

The Chief Executive then received Bulacan Vice-Go v. Jose Villarama, who asked for a total ban in the slaughter of carabaos. Villarama said that a partial carabao ban still provides cattle rustlers with outlets for stolen carabaos.

Other callers included Senators Maria Kalaw-Katigbuk, Estanislao Fernandez, and Francisco Rodrigo; Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Butuan City Mayor Salvador Calo; and Rep. Ramon Bagatsing of Manila.

President Macapagal issued the following statement today upon the death of Pope John XXIII.

“This Catholic nation in Asia mourns the passing away of Pope John XXIII, its spiritual leader, fatherly guide, and friend.

“It was under Pope John’s reign that Philippine Catholicism gained recognition with the designation of the first Filipino cardinal. For this and for Pope John’s unwavering struggle for world peace, Filipinos join all men of goodwill of all nations in mourning Pope John’s death and in praying for eternal repose of his soul.”

President Macapagal has issued an executive order amending Executive Order No. 298, dated August 12, 1940, entitled prohibiting the automatic renewal of contracts, requiring public bidding before entering into new contracts, and providing exceptions therefor, it was announced by Malacañang today. The new executive order further amends the third paragraph of Executive Order No. 298.

**June 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today held a round of conferences with 19 members of Congress led by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal on various local problems. The President met with the congressmen in his study from 10:45 o’clock in the morning up to 12:20 o’clock in the afternoon.

In the afternoon the President received 12 groups of businessmen who took up with him problems affecting the business community, including new business proposals.

Indication of a healthier Philippine investment climate for foreign capital were noted during a Businessman’s Day call by officials of the First Boston Corporation of New York on President Macapagal this afternoon.



Emil J. Pattberg and Andrew N. Overby, chairman and vice-president, respective, of the investment corporation, were accompanied to the President's study by Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., and Gov. Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank.

The two said they were here on a survey of local financing possibilities for both government and private credit, but more particularly for government securities.

They were considering immediate investments in the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority. The Chief Executive was "elated over the enthusiasm and interest" of the foreign investors and said he would give "all possible encouragement to foreign capital."

Also Businessman's Day callers were the officials of the Union Workers' Industrial Cooperative, Inc., the workers' group to whom the state sold the National Development Company textile mills two months ago.

Bonifacio R. de Luna, union president, said that the cooperative, composed of 1,204 workers, is on the verge of collapse because the much-needed GSIS investment of P856,000 for their initial operating capital has not been released. De Luna said the cooperative has no money to pay the wages of workers and to purchase cotton raw materials, and that many members who have not worked since the turnover last April 20 were hungry and demoralized.

De Luna said the hitch is in that the NDC has not yet secured the titles of certain portions of the untitled lands included in the deed of sale. In approving the promised investment, the GSIS board had made it a condition that the sale contract be perfected, a condition which required that the purchased properties be duly registered.

The union officials said it would take them at least six months to effect the registration of the untitled lands.

The President was much concerned by the NDC workers' problem because he said "this is an Administration experiment on how well the turnover of government projects to private investors would fare." He directed Acting Chairman Jovino Lorenzo of the Development Bank of the Philippines to give all-out financial and technical assistance to this first state experiment.

The President also advised the union officials to employ the services of a good management consultant.

P. M. Silva, owner of the Filipino Pipe and Foundry Corporation, urged the President to veto the provisions of House Bill No. 5669, which would exempt the NAWASA from the payment of all taxes, duties, fees, imposts, charges, and restrictions. Silva said that passage of the bill would virtually kill his industry which was established solely to furnish the NAWASA with the required cast iron water pipes.

He added that importation by NAWASA of pipes without duties was "like giving subsidy to foreign products." This would eliminate locally-established industry and increase unemployment, Silva said.

The President received a total of 12 business groups from 4:10 p.m. to 5:15 p. m., after which he held his regular weekly press conference.

President Macapagal was in high spirits at his weekly press conference. He exchanged pleasantries with newsmen during the question-and-answer session.

He announced his decision to call a special session of Congress beginning Monday and belied reports he will relieve Press Secretary Leoncio R. Parungao, Jr.

"If I would give Secretary Parungao another work, it will be in a concurrent capacity," he told newsmen who inquired into the veracity of reports that the press office will be shaken up.

Newsmen suggested Parungao be given the commerce portfolio in an acting capacity during the absence of Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

After meeting the newsmen, the President received Secretary of Justice Juan R. Liwag and later Social Security System Administrator Rene Espina, who is soon leaving the SSS to run as the Liberal Party standard bearer for the gubernatorial post of Cebu.

**June 6.**—THIS morning the President met with Secretary of Education Alejandro R. Roces, Directors Carlos Quirino of the National Library and Galo Ocampo of the National Museum, and former Judge Guillermo Guevara on the proposed construction of new buildings for the two government bureaus in Intramuros and the development of the Pinaglabanan monument in San Juan, Rizal.

The President then received the members of the board of regents of the University of Mindanao who reported to him on the progress of the University and the plans for its development.

The University officials said that they are putting up the colleges of engineering, fishery, forestry, and agriculture in line with the socio-economic program of the Administration. They said that there is a great awakening on the part of the Muslims in education, which they said is a good sign, considering that they are inclined to dislike education as an instrument against their religion.

The UM officials were Antonio Isidro, president; ex-Rep. Juan S. Alano; Princess Tarhata Lucman; Nicolas Capistrano; Rasuman Macalindong and Mosur Mangandan, members of the board of regents.

The President also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal of Manila former Councilors Federico Blay and Angel Linao, and Manolo Cruz, a ward leader.

Toward noon the Chief Executive met with members of the board of directors of the Philippine Air Lines headed by Rene Barretto, PAL president, and the members of the Civil Aeronautics Board led by Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova with whom he had a lengthy exchange of views on Philippine policy in aviation development.

Other present were DBP Chairman and PAL Vice-President Pablo Lorenzo, and Gen. Marcos Soliman, Alex Barin, Alfonso Sycip, Col. Victor Dizon, Enrique Davila, and Capt. Roberto Lim of the PAL board of directors; and Gen. Jonas Victoria, Dr. Gregorio Zara, and E. Asistores of the GAB.

President Macapagal today received the letters of credence of two newly-designated ambassadors to the Philippines in separate ceremonies held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

The new foreign envoys were Ambassadors Miguel Teus of Spain and Guenther Schlegelberger of Germany.

After the presentation of credentials ceremony (lie President received members of the Spanish community. Numbering about thirty, the group desired to witness the ceremonies, but it was not in conformity with Malacañang procedure.

Among the group which the President received in his study were Manuel Elizalde, Rep. Miguel Cuenco, Enrique Zobel, Ambassador Jose Ma. Delgado, Ramon Barata, Francisco Marti, president of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Perez Lizano. Enrique Brias, brothers Antonio and Eduardo Roxas Gargollo, Valentin Teus, an uncle of the new ambassador. Dr. Jose Aboitez, and Dr. Vidal Tan.

The President then repaired to the Council of State room, where he presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

Other callers included Director Serafin Lanot of the Bureau of Printing and Rep. Eladio Caliwara of Quezon.

President Macapagal conferred the Golden Heart Presidential Award upon Mrs. Muriel Jay for “meritorious services in vitalizing humane education.”

The award was presented by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño to Mrs. Jay in a ceremony held at Malacañang.

Mrs. Jay was cited for initiating practical class lessons on the proper care of pets, organization of junior humane societies, and exhibitions on humane education.

Mrs. Jay, an Englishwoman, was accompanied to Malacañang by her husband, John L. Jay, an executive of an oil company. The awardee, who first came to the Philippines in 1941, founded the Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) 12 years ago.

The PAWS is an affiliate of the Royal Society for the Prevention, of Cruelty to Animal, of England.

**June 7.**—A COMMON Man’s Day delegation told President Macapagal today that Moises Padilla was a Huk, whose *alias* was “Adventure Don Juan.” The information was contained in a folder of documents presented to the President by Eliseo P. Legaspi, lawyer of the families of 22 men convicted in the 1951 murder of Moises Padilla.

The families of the condemned prisoners were among a total of 1,276 “Common Man’s Day” callers received by the President from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Legaspi claimed that Moises Padilla was killed by one Rodolfo Ramos to avenge the death of his brother, Pascualito, whose killing Rodolfo attributed to Padilla. “It would not take 27 people, the originally accused, 22 of whom were convicted, to kill a man,” Legaspi stressed.

In an accompanying petition to the President, the families of the condemned prisoners asked for their absolute pardon. The President, promised to study the petition.

The seven-hour proceedings were interrupted only when the President received a brief courtesy call from the foreign ministers of Indonesia and Malaya at 9:30 a.m.

Another caller on the President, a high school teacher, Lucio A. Hingpit, from Cardona, Rizal, presented him with a tape-recording of an international symposium on world peace.

In the symposium, world leaders, including the Chief Executive, were impersonated by students of the San Francisco High School in Cardona, with “President Macapagal” advocating respect for the international court of justice in settling international differences, and “Princess Tarhata” urging the return of North Borneo to the Philippines. The President thanked the teacher for his resourcefulness.

This afternoon the President formally launched “Operation Respect the Centavo” project in a ceremony held at the Philamlife auditorium on United Nations Avenue.

The President this evening honored the delegates to the historic tripartite ministerial conference which started in Manila earlier in the afternoon with a state dinner at the Malacañang state dining room.

At press time the President was still with the three foreign ministers of the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaya. The Philippines was represented by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs. Representing Indonesia was Foreign Minister Raden Subandrio, while Malaya was represented by Deputy Foreign Minister Tun Abdul Razak.

**June 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent this day working on pending state papers at Malacañang.

Waking up early this morning, the President had breakfast with Mrs. Macapagal.

After reading the morning newspapers brought up to him by Lt. Cmdr. David Cruz, naval aide, the President repaired to his private study and started poring over a pile of state documents sent up to him by the office of Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño.

Aside from Senator Mariano J. Cuenco, who called this morning, the President did not have any other visitor.

In the afternoon, following a brief rest, the President resumed work on the papers until evening.

President Macapagal Today proclaimed June 19 this year a special public holiday in commemoration of the 102nd birth anniversary of the national hero, Dr. Jose Rizal.

“It is fitting and proper that the people be given full opportunity to celebrate the day with appropriate ceremonies in keeping with his ideals and teachings,” the President said.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: June 9-15, 1963

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**June 9.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today directed all relief agencies of the government to extend immediate aid to typhoon victims in central and northern Luzon.

He issued the order through Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, head of the Presidential Committee on Relief and Rehabilitation.

The order came amidst reports that some Luzon provinces, particularly Bataan, Zambales, and Pampanga, had been hit by floods caused by typhoons *Auring* and *Bebeng* during the past few days.

Among the relief agencies mobilized by the Chief Executive were the Social Welfare Administration, the Philippine National Red Cross, and the Philippine Air Force.

The President spent most of the morning going over pending state papers.

This afternoon the President inspected the site of the proposed cultural center in Intramuros.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President motored to the Walled City this afternoon and viewed the places, former sites of the Palacio Real or the Spanish Governor's Palace, and the Ayuntamiento in the vicinity of the Manila Cathedral, where the buildings of the national library and the national museum will be constructed,

After making the rounds of the site, the First Couple heard mass at the Cathedral. They motored along Dewey Boulevard before going back to Malacañang early in the evening.

**June 10.**—THIS morning the President and the First Lady led the country in paying tribute to the memory of Pope John XXIII by attending a *requiem* mass said by Rufino J. Cardinal Santos at the Manila metropolitan cathedral. The special mass which started at 7 a.m. was followed by funeral services for the Pope officiated by Msgr. Salvatore Siino, Apostolic Nuncio.

Also present at the two-hour church rites were Vice-President and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez, Senate President and Mrs. Ferdinand Marcos, Sen. Gil J. Puyat, NEC Chairman Cornelio T. Balmaceda, and members of the diplomatic corps.

The President this morning conducted the first of a series of department-by-department seminars on his moral regeneration program for some 200 key officials of the Department of Finance at the Malacañang Heroes' Hall this morning.

They were led by Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., Undersecretary Jorge Labayo, Customs Commissioner Norborto Romualdez, Jr., and Acting BIR Commissioner Amable Aguiluz.

Following the seminar, the President received the members of a House special committee who reported to him on the opening of the special session in the Lower House.

Those who called on the Chief Executive were Reps. Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, Maximino Noel of Cebu, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, and Eladio Balite of Samar.

This afternoon the President received a Senate special committee which formally notified him about the opening of the special session in the Senate. They were Sens. Maria Kalaw-Katigbak, Ambrosio Padilla, Oscar Ledesma, and Camilo Osias.

The president also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Speaker Villareal or former Mayor Higinio Gopez of Porac, Pampanga. Gopez is an old guard Nacionalista in Pampanga.

Present at the induction ceremony held in the President's study were Pampanga Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno, Bacolor Mayor Emerito de Jesus and Barrio Lieutenants Felix Buan and Lazaro Enrique of Porac.

President Macapagal today issued a proclamation declaring the period from June 16 to June 22, this year, as Rural Banks Week.

He enjoined the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines and the Department of Rural Banks of the Central Bank of the Philippines to cooperate in assuring the successful celebration of the week.

**June 11** —PRESIDENT Macapagal today cancelled his appointment with governors and city mayors who were scheduled to see him on varied problems ranging from politics to financial assistance needed in the construction of projects in their respective localities.

The President closeted himself in his study room, where he finished the draft of his speech which he will deliver tomorrow afternoon at the Independence Day ceremonies on the Luneta.

The President also prepared an Independence Day message which he asked Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., to release to the newspapers.

Shortly after noon the President and the First Lady motored to the residence of Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag to felicitate him personally on the occasion of his 57th birth anniversary.

The President and the First Lady had lunch with Secretary and Mrs. Liwag and other guests.

From the Liwag residence, the President returned to the Palace where he concluded his work on his Independence Day speech.

**June 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today was guest of honor and principal speaker at the 65th Independence Day anniversary celebration on the Luneta. The President and the First Lady left Malacañang at 2:15 p.m. and arrived at the Quirino Grandstand at 2:25 p.m., as scheduled.

Upon arrival at the grandstand, the President was accorded military honors, including a 21-gun salute, by a composite group of the Presidential Guard Battalion. Afterward the Chief Executive trooped the line.

He was flanked by Lt. Gen. Alfredo M. Santos, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and Lt. Col. Bienvenido Tolentino, commanding officer of the Presidential Guard Battalion. The President was escorted by Secretaries Alejandro R. Roces of education and Macario Peralta, Jr., of national defense from the parade ground to the grandstand.

The President wore a *jusi barong* 17 Pilipino with dark grey trousers while the First Lady had a pink terno.

At the start of the parade the President stood and remained standing until the military parade ended. He was flanked by Secretary Peralta and General Santos.

At 4 p.m. General Emilio Aguinaldo arrived at the grandstand to turn over formally his land and house at Kawit, Cavite, to the Philippine government. The President accepted the deed of donation on behalf of the government.

The ceremonies ended at 6 p.m. They were marred by rain toward the end.

Among others who attended the Independence Day rites were the President and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez, Indonesian Deputy First Minister Raden Subandrio, Malayan Foreign Minister Tun Abdul Rasak. Senate President and Mrs. Ferdinand Marcos, and Chief Justice Bengzon of the Supreme Court.

The President and the First Lady returned to Malacañang at 6:20 p.m.

President and Mrs. Macapagal gave a state dinner at Malacañang this evening as part of the nationwide celebration of the 65th anniversary of the first Philippine Republic.

The guest list of this traditional Independence Day affair, which was held at the newly-renovated Heroes' Hall, included Vice-President and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez Senate President and Mrs. Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker and Mrs. Cornelio T. Villareal, Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon, Mrs. Victoria Quirino-Gonzalez, Deputy Prime Minister and Mrs. Tun Abdul Rasak of Malaya, Deputy First Minister Raden Subandrio of Indonesia, Secretary for External Affairs Inche Ghazali Bin Shafie of Malaya, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Suwito Kusumowidagdo of Indonesia, members of the diplomatic corps headed by Apostolic Nuncio Msgr. Salvatore Siino, members of the Cabinet, and other ranking Philippine and foreign government officials and their ladies.

**June 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today a letter from King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand formally accepting his invitation for a state visit here next month. The letter was delivered to the Chief Executive this morning by Thai Ambassador Rangsiyakorn Aphakorn.

During his brief call Ambassador Aphakorn also congratulated the President for his initial success in pushing through his idea of a Malayan confederation during the recently-concluded tripartite ministerial talks among Malaya, the Philippines, and Indonesia.

Earlier this morning the President received at breakfast Israeli Ambassador Yehiel Ilsar, who called to say goodbye just before enplaning for home. He will assume a new post in Bangkok.

In the afternoon the President presided over his weekly press conference.

Before meeting with the newsmen, the President received Howard Hawkins, vice-president and general manager of the RCA Council in New York, who came with Charles Clark, RCA manager in Manila. He also received a Batangas delegation of about 100 persons led by Sen. Maria Kalaw Katigbak.

This afternoon the President received pledges of loyalty and whole hearted support for his socio-economic program from Liberal Party leaders of Batangas province.

Headed by Ben Medrano, LP provincial candidate for governor, the delegation numbered more than 100 political followers, sympathizers, and candidates for local elective posts. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Sen. Maria Kalaw-Katigbak.

The Batangas LP candidates in the delegation had just been proclaimed by Senate and Liberal Party President Ferdinand Marcos. They called on the President to pay their respects and to formally notify him of their proclamation.

Among those in the delegation were Dr. Olegario Cantos, director of the NAWASA; Simeon Medalla, chairman of the MRR; Lorgia Medina, candidate for vice-governor; and Mateo Calangi, Francisco Madlangbayan, and Maximiano Medalla, candidates for the provincial board.

At his weekly press conference this afternoon. President Macapagal indicated he may extend the current special session of Congress to enable both Houses to consider additional "important and urgent" measures.

He reiterated he was ready to consider expanding the legislative agenda of the current special session” and, “if necessary, to extend it.”

The President had previously limited the agenda of the current special session to three bills: namely, the budget, the public works, and the land reform bills.

However, a bi-partisan group of senators had recommended the inclusion of seven non-controversial bills which are already in Senate-House conference committee.

At the same time, the President said that the new budget for the next fiscal year has authorized the grant of salary increases and pay adjustments of all government employees.

The President told newsmen that he will effect these salary increases at the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1.

At his weekly press conference the President:

1. Said that the constitutionality of the land reform bill is a “moot question” although he said that his advisers had studied that aspect, of the measure;
2. Stated he will approve the measure granting government employees Christmas bonuses if his advisers so recommend;
3. Announced that the projected tripartite “summit” among the heads of states of Malaya, Philippines, and Indonesia will be held “sometime in July;”
4. Denied knowledge of a projected strike in ten government firms; and
5. Said he will name a new manager of the National Marketing Corporation to succeed Teofilo D. Reyes, Sr., who has insisted on his retirement.

The President said he conferred today with Senate President Marcos, who asked the Chief Executive to expand the legislative agenda of the current special session by including seven non-controversial measures.

The President stated that he had directed Legislative Secretary Manuel Concordia to secure a list of these seven measures in order that their urgency and importance could be looked into.

It was indicated that other measures, aside from the seven bills recommended by the senators, may be included in the agenda of the current special session if it could be shown that they are urgent and necessary.

**June 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had a gruelling day today attending to a total of 3,246 “Common Man’s Day” callers. The crowd was second to the largest ever to flock to Malacañang since the President began receiving the general public in February of this year.

The Chief Executive attended to them from 9:35 o’clock in the morning up to 3:40 o’clock in the afternoon, taking time out only once at 12:30 p.m. to take a hurried lunch.

The gathering also was one of the most colorful because of the presence of some 300 representatives of the country’s minority groups who paid him a courtesy call. Garbed in their colorful tribal costumes complete with spears, shields, daggers, and boloes, the minority groups were participants in the June 12 Independence Day celebration. They were accompanied by National Integration Commissioners Omar Dianalan and Gabriel Dunuan.



The presidential callers included 21 provincial delegations who submitted to the Chief Executive formal petitions for the expropriation of landed estates, release of funds for community development projects, release of public lands for agricultural purposes, and grants of labor contracts.

Also among the callers were the incoming officers of the Bureau Directors Association (BUDIRAS) headed by Immigration Commissioner Martiniano Vivo, who were inducted by the President. He exhorted them to rally behind his moral regeneration program.

The President was assisted in attending to the thousands of callers by the First Lady and an array of Palace aides and assistants.

After a short rest the President and the First Lady left Malacañang at 4 p.m. for the Development Bank of the Philippines, where they were guests of honor at its fifth anniversary celebration. They were fetched from Malacañang by DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo.

This afternoon the President signed into law an Administration measure raising the capitalization of the Development Bank of the Philippines from P500 million to P2 billion.

The Chief Executive signed the bill at the DBP Social Hall during ceremonies commemorating the fifth anniversary of the bank where he and the First Lady were guests of honor.

The measure (Senate Bill No. 229) is aimed at augmenting the loanable funds of the bank and enabling it to take advantage of foreign and domestic offers of credit which would in turn be funnelled to local development projects.

Among those present at the ceremony were Assistant Executive Secretary Jovino Lorenzo, Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Senator Estanislao Fernandez, Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, Speaker and Mrs. Cornelia T. Villareal, Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, and Rep. Floro Crisologo.

President and Mrs. Macapagal welcomed today the return of their three children who completed a two-month round-the-world tour. The children took off from Rome and flew direct to the Manila International Airport.

The First Couple motored to the MIA after witnessing the fifth anniversary celebration of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr., the Macapagal children, returned with their grandmother, Mrs. Irena Vda. de Macaraeg.

**June 15.**—The President early today had a breakfast conference with Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, and Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes on the status of the Administration's land reform bill which was under consideration by the Senate.

The Senate President and the Speaker also reported to the Chief Executive on the status of the P223-million public works bill.

About 1:20 o'clock in the afternoon the President and the First Lady motored to the residence of General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat in New Manila, Quezon City, to felicitate him on his 52nd birthday anniversary.

Back at Malacañang at 2:45 p.m., the President took a brief rest, then worked on pending state papers.

The President stayed late this evening like an expectant father waiting for developments in Congress where his two bills, the land reform and public works bills, hung fire on the last few hours of the special session.

The Chief Executive had earlier been assured by Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos that he will ram the bills through the last day of the special session.

The President stayed in his bedroom and waited for telephone calls on the development in the Senate on the two bills.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: June 16-22, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 16.**—THE President woke up late after staying up to early morning in Congress following up personally two major administration bills, the public works and the land reform measures.

He was the first President who had personally gone to Congress to work for the passage of his bills.

The President stayed in the Palace the whole morning working on state papers.

This afternoon the President motored to Malabon, Rizal, to see for himself the living conditions of squatters in the area. In the course of the inspection the President announced that the Administration is launching soon massive program to provide housing for the masses.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the Chief Executive left the Palace at 4 p.m. and was back at Malacañang at 6:55 p.m. On the way to Malabon, the President passed along the squatters' area on North Bay Boulevard.

In Malabon the President headed for the residence of Mayor Lucio G. Gutierrez but was informed that he was in Batangas. Mrs. Gutierrez, who was home, served refreshments to the First Couple.

During an interview with newsmen at the Gutierrez residence, the President stressed that of the three basic human needs—food, clothing, and shelter—food and clothing are being taken care of satisfactorily and what is needed only is to “maintain the momentum” of Administration programs to provide those elements.

The clothing problem, he said, has been solved with the mass production and distribution of the inexpensive “pag-asa” cloth for the masses.

On food, the President added, the Administration is supplying the people with low-cost rice through the Rice and Corn Administration. He also said the Administration has given impetus to fish production and distribution with the assignment of a pier at North Harbor solely for the use of fishermen, while the Nation's livestock industry is expanding.

The third element, housing, is “the big task now” of the Administration, he said.

Regarding the housing program, the President said the office of the Presidential Assistant on Housing will plan a comprehensive program coordinating the activities of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, the Home Financing Commission, the Government Service Insurance System, and the Social Security System.

President Macapagal also told the newsmen that he would ask additional appropriations from Congress for financing the housing program. Low-cost housing units will be sold to tenants on easy terms, the President said, and this will be given more emphasis. There will also be tenement buildings that will be intended for rent to low-income groups.

The Chief Executive said a presidential committee will coordinate the housing program in Manila and the suburbs. He also said that the program will be put into effect “in a month's time.”

After inspecting the housing sites, the President and the First Lady repaired to the Malacañang chapel and heard mass.

**June 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today Mayor Antonio Villegas, who returned early this morning aboard the Philippine Air Lines plane *Sampaguita* from Hawaii where he attended the 30th annual conference of U.S. mayors in Honolulu.

During his courtesy call on the Chief Executive, Villegas reported on the results of the conference which took up urban renewal methods and civil rights. The Mayor said that he had been assured of technical assistance in implementing urban renewal any time the city is prepared to undertake such plan.

Following his meeting with Villegas, the President met with Commerce Secretary Rufino C Hechanova on matters which the latter will take up with trade and banking officials while he is in the United States. Hechanova will leave for New York on Wednesday to fulfill a speaking engagement before the New York Chamber of Commerce.

Among the matters taken up by Hechanova with the President were quotas affecting Philippine export goods, Philippine Air Lines' applications before the US Civil Aeronautics Board, and a \$62 million loan application with the Export-Import Bank for the first integrated steel mill in the country. In the afternoon the President and the First Lady were guests of honor at the inauguration and blessing of the Traders Commercial Bank. Fetches by Mrs. Soledad L Dolor, president of the bank, the First Couple left Malacañang at 4:50 p.m. and arrived at the bank at the Manhattan building on Nueva Street at 5 p.m.

The First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon, while Msgr. Hernando Antiporda, auxiliary bishop of Manila, blessed the premises.

Senator and Mrs. Estanislao Fernandez, Mrs. Aurora Recto, and Alfredo M. Lustre, TCB executive vice-president, met the guests of honor on arrival.

After the inauguration ceremonies and blessing, the President and the First Lady had a snack, together with other distinguished guests, in the room of the bank president.

After leaving the bank premises the President took time out to meet the public. People along the street applauded and cheered him as he went through the crowd to greet them and shake their hands.

The President finally boarded his car at 5:30 p.m. and, with the First Lady, motored through Dewey Boulevard, returning to Malacañang at 6:05 p.m.

In the evening, the President met with Prisons Director Felix Amante on improvements in the bureau.

Amante proposed the construction of new prison dormitories and a modern hospital in the national penitentiary compound in Muntinlupa, Rizal.

The Prisons Director also discussed with the President the opening of new penal colonies and the transfer of the Iwahig Penal Colony in Palawan to Rio de Tuba in the southernmost tip of the province.

**June 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred at breakfast today with Liberal, leaders of both Houses of Congress on the status of the land reform and public works bills which were hanging fire in the Senate.

Headed by Senate President Ferdinand Marcos and Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, those present were Senators Ambrosio Padilla, Rogelio de la Rosa, Eulogio Balao, Gaudencio Antonino, Francisco Rodrigo, Camilo Osias, Manuel P. Manahan, Raul S. Manglapus, Maria Kalaw-Katigbak, and Estanislao Fernandez. Also present were Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño and Legislative Secretary Manuel Concordia.

The morning conference lasted from 8:25 a.m. up to 10:10 a.m. After meeting with the Congressional leaders, the President repaired to his study where he signed into law Senate Bill No. 24, otherwise known as the Philippine Veterans Bank Act.

Witnessing the signing of the bill were Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Senators Eulogio Balao, Ambrosio Padilla, Camilo Osias, Francisco Rodrigo, Rogelio de la Rosa and Maria Kalaw-Katigbak; MRR Chairman Simeon Medalla, president of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP); Lt. Gen. Alfonso

Arellano (ret.); Brig. Gen. Dionisio Ojeda (ret.); Dr. Eliedoro D. Congco, VFP surgeon; and some 30 officers of different veterans organizations.

The President then received 18 provincial governors, vice-governors, and city mayors who consulted him on local problems, including the release of funds for urgent public works projects.

In the evening the President was guest of honor and inducting officer at the formal induction of officers of the VFP at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel. Sworn in by the Chief Executive were Simeon Medalla, president; Ernesto P. Golez, first vice-president; Roman O. Nolasco, second vice-president; Primitivo Lovina, third vice-president; Agustin Marking, fourth vice-president; Philomeno P. Padilla, secretary-general; Emmanuel Ocampo, treasurer-general; Antonio F. Garcia, auditor-general; Eliodoro D. Congco, surgeon; Carlos G. Cruz, engineer; Gamaliel L. Manikan, legal counsel; and some 30" veterans representatives to the VFP supreme council.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President was fetched from Malacañang by VFP President Medalla.

This evening the President announced the designation of the following to compose the board of directors of the Mindanao Development Authority; Mayor Justiniano Borja of Cagayan de Oro City, as chairman; Filemon Zablan, general manager of the National Power Corporation, member; Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, member; and Sofronio Española of Palawan, member.

Only one member remains to be named. The President also ordered the complete staffing requirements of the MDA with the assistance of the Program Implementation Agency.

Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., said that the activation of the Mindanao Development Authority was held in abeyance by the President pending the synchronization of Mindanao projects with the five-year socio-economic program.

MDA was created by authority of RA 3034. It will spearhead the development and consequent industrialization of the Mindanao area, which is a major goal of the President's five-year socio-economic program.

**June 19.**—THE President this morning was conferred the Knight Grand Cross of Rizal in a ceremony held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall. The award was presented to the Chief Executive by Dean Santiago F. de la Cruz, Supreme Commander of the Knights of Rizal, in connection with the commemoration of the 102nd birth anniversary of Dr. Jose Rizal. Dean De la Cruz was assisted in presenting the award to the President by the First Lady.

After the conferment ceremony the President repaired to his study where he witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party, by Rep. Manuel T. Cases of La Union, of Ignacio G. Narcelles and Pio L. Ver, Nacionalista mayoralty and vice-mayoralty candidate, respectively, in the 1959 elections in Rosario, La Union.

At past 11 o'clock this morning the President and the First Lady motored to Sampaloc, Manila, where they visited an ailing and impoverished woman. Mrs. Felecidad Salazar Simbre.

Mrs. Simbre's 16-year old daughter, Virginia, had written the First Couple asking them to visit her mother so that she "might be happy and forget her disease."

Going out of the Simbre home, the President distributed New Era T-shirts to some children who had gathered in front of the apartment of Mrs Simbre upon learning of his presence there. In the crowd was a boy with an enlarged cheek, being carried by the mother. Upon seeing him, the President directed Capt. Arcadio Alarcon of the Presidential Security Service to arrange proper medical assistance for the boy.

Back at Malacañang shortly before noon, the President received Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova. who called for last-minute instructions prior to enplaning for the United States this-afternoon to fulfill a speaking engagement and to carry out some missions for the Chief Executive.

In the afternoon the President worked on state papers, including some bills passed by Congress during the last regular session and submitted to him for approval.

Among the bills was H.B. No. 6187, authorizing the President to guarantee such loans as may be granted by the U. S. Export-Import Bank, or, any other international bank, for the establishment of an integrated steel plant at Iligan City which he signed into law.

The President today granted a 30-day reprieve to two convicts scheduled, to die in the electric chair tomorrow.

Mauricio Navarro y Ordillo and Policarpio Tiongson y Garcia had been given the death penalty for robbery with homicide. It was the second reprieve for Navarro, and the first for Tiongson.

The reprieve was granted by the Chief Executive upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, which said that it needed some more time within which to consider the two prisoners' petition for executive clemency.

They were originally scheduled to be executed today, but since the President had declared June 10 a special public holiday in commemoration of Dr. Jose Rival's 102nd birthday, the executive order would have been carried out tomorrow because of a penal code provision that no execution should be set on a holiday.

**June 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today met with 16 members of Congress on problems of their respective districts. Those who called on the Chief Executive were Reps. Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo, Justo L. Albert of Manila, Eugenio Baltao of Nueva Ecija, Tito M. Dupaya of Cagayan, Jovito R. Salonga of Rizal, Lucas Paredes of Abra, Ramon M. Durano of Cebu, Eladio T. Balite of Samar, Josefina B. Duran of Albay, Eladio A. Caliwara of Quezon, Tereso Dumon of Cebu, Alfredo Lamen of Mt. Province, Dominador Tan of Leyte, Vicente B. de Lara of Misamis Oriental, and Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga.

Rep. Ladrado brought along with him copies of his pet bills for token signatures of the President. The bills are House Bill No. 395, providing for the conversion of the Dumangas Puericulture Center into the Dumangas Emergency Hospital, and H.B. No. 2067, which provides for the conversion of the Iloilo National School of Fisheries into the Iloilo Regional School of Fisheries.

Rep. Caliwara invited the President to inaugurate the new Lucban Elementary School building in Lucban, Quezon, on or before the end of this month.

In the afternoon the President received businessmen who took up with him matters concerning their business ventures.

In the course of his meeting with the businessmen, the President was presented with a plaque of appreciation by the board of governors of the Development Bank of the Philippines headed by Chairman Pablo Lorenzo.

The presentation of the plaque was made in connection with the fifth anniversary celebration of the bank last June 14 "in grateful recognition of his profound concern and continued encouragement and support for the expanded operations and activities of this bank in furtherance of the socioeconomic development of this country, as eloquently reflected in the approval of Senate Bill No. 229," increasing the capitalization of the DBP from P500 million to P2 billion.

Following his series of conferences with the businessmen, the Chief Executive presided over his regular weekly press conference.

At the press conference the President said he was against the grant of "pork barrel" to members of Congress and strongly indicated he will veto any allocation as "waste of funds."

The President said the Senate, through Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, has been working out a satisfactory arrangement with the House to do away “pork barrel” allocations to members of Congress.

The President said that “with our methodical programming of public works projects in the socio-economic program, there is no need for pork barrel.” He reiterated his administration’s policy against the grant of “pork barrel” which he had denounced in the first year of his term. Last year, Congress did not pass a public work bill. The public works bill is still pending in both Houses of Congress during the current special session.

At his weekly press conference, the President:

1. Disclosed that he had signed 22 bills into law this day;
2. Stated he will sign or veto bills and will not allow any measure to lapse into law;
3. Said he will approve the bill granting Christmas bonuses to government employees unless the technical committee headed by Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag recommends its veto;
4. Expressed optimism that both the land reform and the public works bills will pass before the adjournment of the current special session tomorrow; and
5. Indicated he may expand the legislative agenda and will refer *ad interim* appointments for confirmation by the Commission on Appointments if there is still time left after both Houses have approved the land reform and the public works bills.

In the evening the President received Narciso Reyes, ambassador to Indonesia, who paid him a farewell call prior to departure for his post.

**June 21.**—THIS DAY President Macapagal received a total of 2,647 “Common Man’s Day” callers who, in spite of inclement weather, flocked to Malacañang to present their respective problems.

Assisted by the First Lady, the President attended to his callers in his study and at the Heroes Hall of Malacañang from 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Then the President received a resolution of gratitude for the Administration’s assistance to the Philippines Iron Mines, Inc.

The Philippine Iron Mines was recently extended a P6 million loan by the Development Bank of the Philippines, which also guaranteed a \$5 million loan secured by the company from the Export-Import Bank of Washington.

After some two hours of rest, the President and the First Lady motored to the Republic Bank building on the Escolta, where they headed a list of distinguished guests on the occasion of the building’s inauguration and celebration of the bank’s 10th anniversary.

Mrs. Macapagal cut the ceremonial ribbon. The First couple were fetched from Malacañang by Mrs. Victoria B. Roman, member of the bank’s board of directors.

**June 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal worked all day today on bills enacted by Congress during the last regular session in an effort to

dispose of them before the midnight deadline set for him by law to act on the bills. He said he would not allow any bill to lapse into law as in the past.

This morning the President had breakfast with the technical committee on bills headed by Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag. Afterward they rehiired to the Executive Secretary's office in the Executive Building, where they buckled down to work on the bills up to 11 o'clock this morning.

Others with the President in studying the bills were Executive Secretary Salvador L. Marino, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, Assistant Executive Secretary Juan Cancio, Legislative Secretary Manuel Concordia, and Monetary Board Member Armand Fabella.

The President signed today into law Senate Bill No. 275, providing for the permanent registration of voters and postponing the general renewal of registration of voters which had been set for this year.

The new law requires that a permanent list of voters be maintained by an election registrar who shall be appointed by the Commission on Elections or each city, municipality, or municipal district.

On any date within 60 days after acquiring the qualifications of a voter a qualified elector is required to appear personally before the election registrar of the locality in which he resides and file a sworn application for registration. Such application for registration should not be filed, however, within 60 days before any regular election or within 30 days before any special election.

Any person who fails to register within 60 days after acquiring the qualifications of a voter shall not be qualified to vote in the election immediately following his registration.

The President also approved today a House bill changing the name of Dewey Boulevard to President Roxas Boulevard. Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal sponsored the bill.

The seaside avenue, extending from the City of Manila to Pasay City, thence to Parañaque, Rizal, will now be known as Roxas Boulevard.

The President also signed into law a House bill designed to strengthen the base of the Philippine judiciary system as part of the Administration's judicial reform program.

The Act amending the Judiciary Act of 1948, sponsored by the House Committee on Justice, expands the original jurisdiction of the justice of the peace and increased his salary.

Other bills approved by the President were:

1. An Act creating a Bureau of Vocational Education, for the purpose of enhancing the socio-economic program of the Philippines through the development of skilled manpower in agricultural, industrial and trade-technical, fishery, and other vocational courses;
2. An Act amending the Gold Mining Industry Law of 1961, extending the period of assistance to the industry from three to six years;
3. An Act authorizing the construction of self-liquidating public improvements by private persons, by empowering the Department of Public Works and Communications to enter into contracts with any private person for construction, operation, and maintenance of national highways, roads, bridges public markets, irrigation systems, and other self-liquidating public improvements-, provided that such contracts shall be open to citizens of the Philippines;
4. An Act establishing the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation which shall insure the deposits of all banks entitled to the benefits of insurance.



The powers and functions of this corporation shall be vested in three-member board of directors composed of the Central Bank Governor and other two appointive officials to be chosen by the President with the consent of the Commission on Appointments.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: June 23-29, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 23.**—THE President woke up early this morning although he had stayed up to midnight the previous night working on bills passed at the last regular session of Congress.

After a light breakfast with members of his family, the President stayed in his study poring over a pile of pending state papers.

President Macapagal motored today to Baras, Rizal, to inaugurate a new municipal hall. Accompanied by the First Lady, the President's visit to the town some 45 kilometers from Manila, was his first out-of-town trip in several weeks.

Leaving Malacañang about 3 p.m., the President and the First Lady were met at the entrance to Baras by the townspeople who turned out in large numbers to give them a rousing welcome.

The President then alighted from his car and, followed by the huge throng of welcomers with brassbands and fireworks display, walked the kilometer-long distance to the new municipal hall located at the center of town.

Mrs. Macapagal unveiled the commemorative plaque of the new building. Mrs. Edith Fabella Pelaez, wife of the Vice-President, cut the ceremonial ribbon.

Following the unveiling ceremony, the President and the First Lady mounted a gaily-decorated platform set in front of the municipal hall. The President was introduced by Dr. Valentin A. Francisco.

Other speakers were Rep. Jovito R. Salonga of Rizal and Mayor Alejo D. Digma, who delivered the welcome address. Estanislao Jimenez was master of ceremonies.

The President and the First Lady returned to Malacañang from Baras late in the evening.

The President has vetoed House Bill No. 146, granting a Christmas bonus to every official and employee of the government, it was announced by Malacañang today. The bill authorizes provincial, municipal, and city governments to grant similar bonuses.

In a veto message sent to the House of Representatives, the President said he was "aware of the immeasurable joy and welcome relief that the proposed Christmas bonus would bring not only to government officials and employees but to their families as well."

"I would be the last, one to dampen that enthusiasm and prevent the realization of the noble gesture, considering my abiding concern for the general welfare and upliftment of our deserving public servants, but for some constitutional and legal defects which render approval of the measure not legally feasible," the President added.

Accordingly, he directed his economic and fiscal advisers to "find ways and means and devise plans for accomplishing the laudable objective of giving financial relief to government employees during Christmas."

Moreover, he said, the appropriation bill for Fiscal Year-1964 carries a total outlay of about P70 million for the increase of salaries of government employees. This will give them a permanent benefit which will be the basis of their vacation and sick leave and their retirement pay"

President Macapagal approved H. No. 4898, authorizing the sale of all dwelling units of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation to the present registered tenants or their successors-in-interest, Malacañang also announced today.

It provides that all past rentals paid by a registered tenant or his successors-in-interest "shall be credited and applied in full."

**June 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today met with key officials of the Department of Public Works and Communications at the Malacañang Heroes Hall in the second of a series of department-by-department seminars he is personally conducting in connection with his moral regeneration program.

In his remarks before the public works officials, the President said that their department shoulders the bulk of the implementation of the Administrations socio-economic program. He urged them to eliminate red tape in their department, as this had been the cause of much graft and corruption in the past, aside from delaying the progress of the economic development of the country.

Headed by Secretary Brigido Valencia, those present were Undersecretary for Transportation and Communications Jose Lachica, Undersecretary for Public Works Rafael M. Contreras, Presidential Assistant on Public Works Manuel Feliciano, and some 280 division chiefs.

In the afternoon the President was guest of honor and speaker at the celebration of the 392nd anniversary of the founding of Manila.

Fetches by Mayor Antonio Villegas and Vice-Mayor Herminio Astorga, the President motored at 3 p.m. to Arroceros Street bounding the City Hall, the center of the celebration, where he viewed a loyalty parade from an improvised platform.

In his extemporaneous remarks in Filipino and Spanish, the President called upon the city officials to cooperate with one another in order to insure the continued progress of the city. The President was introduced by Mayor Villegas,

During the program the President, assisted by Mayor Villegas, presented the awards to winners of the first City of Manila Cultural Awards contest.

From the City Hall, the President motored back to Malacañang where he went over pending state papers.

The President also received Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr. This raised speculations that the latter submitted his report on the security mission of Defense Undersecretary Alberto de Joya to Thailand and Burma.

**June 25.**—AT breakfast this morning President Macapagal met with the members of the Liberal Party executive committee on the composition of the LP senatorial line-up for the coming elections.

Present at the conference were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently foreign affairs secretary, Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.; Senators Gaudencio Antonino, Estanislao Fernandez, Maria Kalaw-Katigbak, Manuel P. Manahan, and Camilo Osias; Reps. Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur and Manuel T. Cases of La Union; Gov. Mohammad Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Presidential Executive Assistant and EEA Administrator Eleuterio Adevos, and Legislative Secretary Manuel Concordia.

After the conference which lasted from 8:30 to 10 o'clock in the morning, the President received 22 provincial governors, vice-governors, and city mayors who consulted him on matters affecting their respective localities.

In the course of his meeting with the provincial and municipal officials, the President reenacted his signing of House Bill No. 5209, creating the City of Dapitan. Dapitan was the town in Zamboanga del Norte where Dr. Jose P. Rizal was exiled by the Spaniards.

The President also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Speaker Villareal of Councilor Tranquilino de la Cruz of Digos, Davao.

The President also received Messrs. Raul Urrea and Antonio de Veja, both businessmen, who informed him of their plan to establish a factory for building materials and to construct low-cost housing units.

They were accompanied to Malacañang by Health Secretary Francisco Duque,

In the afternoon the President received Msgr. Salvatore Siino, Papal Nuncio, who invited the President and the First Lady to attend a pontifical mass at the Sto. Domingo church in Quezon City on July 12 to be said in honor of the new Pope Paul VI.

In the evening the President inducted into the Liberal Party Govs. Benigno Aquino, Jr., of Tarlac and Claro M. Robles of Quezon. With Gov. Aquino in joining the majority party were Mayors Manuel Cabrera of Camiling, Hipolito Castañeda of Tarlac, Romeo D. Yumul of Concepcion, Rodolfo Llamas of Paniqui, and Melanio Cuchapin of Moncada.

With Gov. Robles were some 80 Nacionalista leaders of Quezon, including Board Member Paterno Abcede and Mayors Amado Clemente of Mauban, Amadeo Almandores of Perez, Epifanio Crisostomo of Real, and Leon Rindera of Gen. Nakar.

Among those who witnessed the formal induction were Speaker Villarreal, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Reps. Eladio Caliwara of Quezon and Jose Cojuangco, Jr., of Tarlac, Govs. Manuel Barretto of Zambales and Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte; and Legislative Secretary Manuel Concordia.

Later this evening the President had dinner with Justice and Mrs. Roberto Regala.

The President directed today Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia to speed up work on national flood control projects to prevent destructive floods this rainy season.

The President specifically mentioned projects in the Greater Manila area, Central Luzon, and Agusan in Mindanao. These have been the areas hit worst by typhoons and floods in recent years.

The Chief Executive stressed the necessity of controlling floods in these areas to save lives and property. He noted that destructive floods in the past had caused not only loss of numerous lives and property but also damage "in the millions" of pesos in public works repairs and rehabilitation work.

**June 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today met with the members of the Board of Censors for moving pictures in connection with his moral regeneration program. In his talk with the members of the board, the President stressed the vital role which the board plays in the realization of the objectives of the moral regeneration drive.

Present at the conference were Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño; Jose Guevara, board chairman; Dean Feliciano Ledesma, board vice-chairman; and Fr. Anselmo Bustos, Gabriel Daza, Justo Lopez, Felix Opimo, Nick Joaquin, Prof. Ramon Tapales, Jose Ricafort, and Mesdames Pura Castelo, Anita Borromeo, Rosalina Castro, Alexandra Antonio, Carmen Crisologo, and Nieves Moran, board members.

After his meeting with the Board of Censors, the President received 18 members of Congress led by Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, who consulted him on matters concerning their districts.

In the afternoon the President met with several groups of businessmen who saw him on problems affecting the business community in general.

Later, the Chief Executive presided over his regular weekly press conference.

At his press conference this afternoon President Macapagal said the Philippines will not deal directly with communist countries as he commented on Commerce Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova's statement in the United States that the country will trade with Red China if the latter is admitted into the United Nations.

The President reaffirmed his "hard line" anti-communist policy. He said the Philippines will deal with communist countries, only through the instrumentalities of the UN.

Asked to comment on Hechanova's statement, the President said that Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, has been asked to check on the veracity of the Cabinet member's statement in America.

At his weekly 'press conference, the President:

1. Expressed optimism that the government, will not meet serious problems in the admission of the increasing number of students at the opening of the academic year next week;
2. Stressed that the prices of essential commodities have not increased for the last few weeks;
3. Denied press reports that he will reassign Vice-President Pelaez to the proposed Land Authority in connection with the controversial land reform bill; and
4. Reaffirmed his continuing confidence in the members of the Board of Censors for Moving Pictures.

Elaborating on his anti-communist "hard line" policy, the President said he would not allow any trade and cultural intercourse with communist countries.

Asked if he would allow some members of Congress to attend the proposed interparliamentary Congress in Yugoslavia, the President said he will act on the request when it is formally presented to him.

**June 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today met with officials of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation on a plan to consolidate nil the housing activities of the government in order to provide adequate housing for the masses.

Present at the conference were PHHC General Manager Angel Macapagal; Assistant Manager Jacobo de Vera; Board Members Avelino Sta. Maria, Manolo C. Cruz, Tomas de la Cruz, and Enrique Ruiz; Jesus Capati; and Morris Juppenlatz, UN housing expert detailed with the PHHC.

Earlier this morning the President received Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon, who paid him a farewell call before enplaning for Rome tomorrow evening as chairman of the Philippine delegation to attend the coronation of Pope Paul VI on June 30.

He also received Dr. Edward W. Mill, professor of diplomacy and world affairs of the Occidental College in Los Angeles, California, who is on a tour of Southeast Asian countries in connection with a book lie is writing on Southeast Asian governments and politics. During his call Mill briefly interviewed the President on the Administration's objectives and the progress it has so far attained.

Mill expressed admiration for the initial success of the President's socio economic program, including his dedication to infuse honesty and integrity in the government.

Aside from being a specialist on Southeast Asia, Mill had been a director of Philippine foreign affairs training program in Washington from 1945-48. He said he had trained 40 Filipinos, 25 of whom are now ambassadors or chiefs of mission.

Following his meeting with Mill, the President received William E. Schlink, president of the Love International, Inc., who arrived here recently on a business survey. Schlink was accompanied to Malacañang by Rep. Tereso Dumon of Cebu.

Other morning nailers were Reparations Chairman Benedicto Padilla and Gov. Bado Dangwa, Rep. Luis Hora, and former Gov. Dennis Malintas, all of Mountain Province.

In the afternoon the President presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

**June 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received a total of 1,845 men, women, and children who trooped to Malacañang from 8:10 o'clock this morning up to 2:20 p.m. notwithstanding intermittent rains caused by typhoon Biding. Carrying along dripping raincoats, umbrellas, and native *salacots*, they formed lines at the Malacañang Heroes Hall awaiting their turn to talk to the Chief Executive.

The President was assisted in attending to the "Common Man's Day" callers by the First Lady, their children, Arturo and Gloria, and an array of Malacañang assistants.

Among the callers were 14 delegations which asked for assistance in community development projects or submitted petitions for the expropriation of landed estates or the release of public lands.

The President attended to the general public continuously for more than six hours, taking time out only once for a light lunch.

In the afternoon the President received Indian Ambassador Mohammad Solaiman Sait, who paid him a courtesy call. Ambassador Sait arrived June 22 after a month's absence during which he attended a conference at New Delhi of Indian ambassadors in Southeast Asia.

Also received by the President was Cagayan de Oro City Mayor Justiniano Borja.

The President issued an administrative order today creating a national committee to take charge of the celebration of Philippine-American Friendship Day on Thursday, July 4.

The committee is composed of the Education Secretary, chairman; the Secretary of National Defense, vice-chairman; the Secretary of Public Works and Communications and the Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs, members; and the Presidential Protocol Officer, member-secretary.

President Macapagal has signed House Bill No. 2649 prohibiting the cutting, destroying, or injuring of planted or growing trees, flowering plants, and shrubs or plants of scenic value along public roads, in plazas, parks, school premises, or in any other public pleasure ground.

The new law provides that any person, who shall cut, destroy, or injure trees, flowering plants, and shrubs, or plants of scenic value, shall be punished by *prision correccional* in its minimum period to *prision mayor* in its minimum period.

*Prision correccional* is imprisonment for a period ranging from six months and one day to six years, while *prision mayor* is equivalent to six years and one day to 12 years in jail.

The only forms of cuttrage allowed are in cases “when the cutting, destroying, or injuring of same is necessary for public safety, or when such pruning is necessary to enhance its beauty, but only upon the approval of the Director of Parks and Wildlife.”

**June 29.**—THE President undertook today a major reshuffle of his Cabinet. The reshuffle was prompted by the inclusion of Justice Secretary Juan R. Liwag in the LP senatorial line-up.

The Cabinet revamp included:

1. Sec. Salvador L. Mariño, who was shifted to the justice department;
2. Sec. Rufino G. Hechanova, to take over as executive secretary, vice Mariño;
3. NEC Chairman Cornelio Balmaceda, as secretary of commerce and industry, vice Hechanova;
4. PIA Director General Sixto K. Roxas III, as NEC chairman, vice Balmaceda; and
5. Armand Fabella, Monetary Board member, as PIA director-general, vice Roxas.

This afternoon President Macapagal motored to the Philippine General Hospital to cheer a patient who was fighting for his life.

Gerato E. Campo, with the help of his brother, had written the President stating: “But before I die I have two wishes, forgiveness from God Father Almighty for my sin, and a shake hands you and me your Excellency.”

Twenty-three years old and still single, Gerato is the youngest of four brothers and two sisters. His family resides at 575 P. Faura, Ermita, Manila.

A balut vendor, Gerato was stabbed by an unknown assailant at the Luneta in the night of May 26. He had been in critical condition since.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady and their daughter Gloria, left Malacañang for the PGH at 4:30 p.m. The three proceeded to the bed of Gerato, who was indeed a pitiful heap of flesh and bones.

Mrs. Macapagal handed the patient some medicines, but he was too weak to receive them. The attending physician, Dr. Ariston Awitan, Jr., accepted the drugs from the First Lady. The President ordered the giving of 1,000 cc. of type O blood to the patient.

From the PGH, the President’s party proceeded to Roxas Boulevard (Dewey) and inspected construction work on a welcome tower at the boundary of Pasay City and Parañaque, Rizal.

The controversial pylon, which was removed from the Rizal monument at the Luneta last Easter, is being installed as a permanent fixture for welcoming state visitors.

On hand to receive the President was Federico Ilustre and Hilario de la Cruz from the Bureau of Public Works, and Rodolfo Martin from the Ace Engineering Corporation. The President and his party returned to Malacañang at 5:30 p.m.

The President spent most of the day working on pending state papers. Early in the evening the First Couple heard mass officiated at the Palace chapel in observance of the Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**





## **President's Week in Review: July 7-13, 1963**

**July 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal inspected today Rice and Corn Administration retail stores in Sampaloc, Sta. Cruz, and Tondo districts to see of the sale of RCA rice at P0.80 a ganta was being followed, as he announced at the LP rally Friday night.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the Chief Executive gathered from rice retailers that the sale of RCA rice was “very brisk.” Housewives to whom the President talked during his inspection thanked him profusely for reducing the price of rice.

The First Couple also visited Valenzuela, Bulacan, to inquire from residents about their view regarding a petition to reunify Valenzuela and Polo towns on condition that the municipal building is located in Valenzuela.

President and Mrs. Macapagal left Malacañang at 4:30 p.m. and returned at 5 p.m.

Early in the morning the President and the First Lady heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. The President later went over pending state papers.

**July 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal said today he is issuing a executive ordered creating a Moral Commission which will extend the moral regeneration drive to the people in general. He revealed his plan to create the commission during a meeting with some 200 key officials and section chiefs of the Department of General Services and its five bureaus, in the fourth of a series of moral regeneration seminars he has been personally conducting at the Heroes Hall of Malacañang.

The President deplored the fact that Congress has failed to pass a law establishing a Moral Commission in spite of his repeated recommendation for its creation. He expressed determination to extend the drive as far as it could be done because, he said, “the nobility of the drive lies in its comprehensiveness.”

The Chief Executive noted that he started extending the drive to local governments when he objected to the admission into the Liberal Party of some Nacionalista local executives or denied support to local executives of his own party whose localities are known for vices and crimes.

Leading the DGS key personnel in the seminar were Secretary Duma Sinsuat and Directors Jose Arcellana of the National Media Production Center, Serafin Lanot of the Bureau of Printing, Apolonio Rivera Bureau of Supply Coordination, Celerino Sapidula of the Bureau of Building and Real Property Management, and Antonio Yacapin of the Bureau of Records Management.

The President said that the Bureau of Printing will be expanded to enable it to meet its ever-increasing printing operations.

The printing bureau, which is headed by Director Serafin Lanot, is one of the agencies under the Department of General Services.

The President said that the necessary funds will be provided the bureau for the acquisition if modern printing equipment. The Chief Executive also expressed gratification over the fine performance of the bureau under its new chief, and thanked the bureau officials for their pledge of support and cooperation to the moral regeneration program.

This afternoon President Macapagal inducted into office four members his Cabinet. Sworn in by President in separate ceremonies at Malacañang were:

(1) Cornelio Balmaceda as secretary of commerce, vice Rufino G. Hechanova, who has been appointed executive secretary;

(2) Sixto Roxas III as NEC chairman, vice Balmaceda;

(3) Armand Fabella as PIA director general, vice Roxas;

(4) Eleuterio Adevosio, formerly PCAPE chairman and EEA acting administrator of economic coordination, vice Manuel Cuenco, who is a senatorial candidate of the Liberal Party;

(5) EEA Performance Director Emmanuel Ocampo as deputy administrator of the EEA in a concurrent capacity; and

(6) BIR Commissioner Jose B. Lingad as PCAPE chairman in a concurrent capacity.

In the crowd that witnessed the induction ceremonies were Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, PHHC General Manager Angel Macapagal, NACIDA Administrator Jovito Rivera, Commerce Undersecretary Medina Lacson de Leon, NAMARCO General Manager Teofilo Reyes, Sr., PCAPE Vice-Chairman Victor Arches, and Director Eloy Baluyot of the Bureau of Agricultural Extension.

Shortly thereafter, the Chief Executive witnessed the mass induction into the Liberal Party by Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova of over 400 opposition leaders of Pasay City led by Vice-Mayor Ansberto Paredes.

Among those who witnessed Paredes' affiliation with the majority party were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, OEC Chairman Eleuterio Adevosio, Pasay City Police Chief Abenir Bornales, Fiscal Antonio Paredes, and former Pasay City Chief of Police Basilio Pineda.

In the evening the President and the First Lady motored to the Philippine Bank of Commerce on Plaza Sta. Cruz, where they headed honor of guests on the occasion of the bank's silver anniversary celebration.

**July 9.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal and the First Lady welcomed today their royal guests, Their Majesties King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit of Thailand, in ceremonies held at the Manila International Airport. The royal guests and their retinue arrived in a special plane from Bangkok at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

After the welcome ceremonies at the airport, President and Mrs. Macapagal, together with their state visitors, returned in a motorcade to Malacañang.

The President and the First Lady left Malacañang for the airport at 4:30 p.m.

This morning the President conferred with 17 provincial governors on matters concerning their respective provinces.

Before meeting with the provincial executives, the President received Rep. S.L. Mah of China and Messrs. James F. Miller and Frederick Pape of the Blyth & Company, Inc., of New York.

Rep. Mah arrived recently for a round of social visits with old friends. He had stayed in the Philippines five years before the war while taking commerce at the University of Santo Tomas and liberal arts at the University of the Philippines.

Rep. Mah was accompanied to Malacañang by Chinese Ambassador Tuan Mao Lan.

Messrs. Miller and Pape arrived in Manila last Sunday on a survey of investment possibilities in the country.

In his talk with the two American businessmen, President Macapagal predicted that the Philippines "will be one of the best investments fields in the next 50 years" because of the determination of the Administration to develop effectively the country's natural resources."

Miller, who is executive vice-president of his company, expressed the hope that they in the private sector could be of help in the Nation's development efforts.

In the evening the President and the First Lady gave state dinner in honor of Their Majesties, the King and Queen of Thailand.

In the course of the dinner-reception the President conferred on His Majesty King Bhumibol the Order of Sikatuna with the rank of Raja, and the Golden Heart Presidential Award on Her Majesty Queen Sirikit.

President Macapagal was conferred by the King of Thailand with the Most Auspicious Order of the Rajamittrabhorn, while Mrs. Macapagal received the First Class of the Most Illustrious Order of Chula Chom Rlao.

President Macapagal has issued Proclamation No. 128, reserving portions of the old University of the Philippines campus along Taft Avenue for an office site for the National Bureau of Investigation, Malacañang announced today. The area had been previously reserved for the Manila Police Department and for the proposed Malcolm Hall.

The portions reserved under the proclamation comprise an area covering 25,248 square meters adjacent to the World Health Organization building and the Department of Justice.

**July 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received Chester Bowles, U.S. Ambassador-designate to India, who paid him a courtesy call. Ambassador Bowles arrived yesterday on his way to assume his post.

In their 50-minute talk, the President and the Ambassador had an exchange of views on Asian and world affairs, particularly on questions of security in Southeast Asia.

President Macapagal informed Ambassador Bowles of the efforts of his Administration to develop the country's economy in an atmosphere of freedom under a free enterprise system. The Chief Executive also said that recent developments have shown that the countries of Asia are moving closer to each other in friendship and understanding.

Ambassador Bowles said he intends to see the heads of state of the Southeast Asian countries so as to have a clear understanding of the region's state of affairs.

The American Ambassador's new assignment will not be alien to him since he served in the same capacity in India under the Eisenhower administration. He was a former undersecretary of state of President Kennedy as well as the latter's foreign policy adviser during the campaign for the presidency.

The U.S. envoy arrived at Malacañang with his aide, Col. Amos Jordan, accompanied by U.S. Ambassador William E. Stevenson.

Following his meeting with Ambassador Bowles, the President received a 15-man Australian parliamentary delegation headed by Postmaster-General Charles Davidson.

The Australian delegation arrived yesterday afternoon on a fact-finding tour of Southeast Asian countries. During their three days' stay here, they planned to hold a series of talks with executive and legislative leaders.

In his meeting with the Australian visitors, the President explained his program of government, particularly his socio-economic development program and moral regeneration drive.

The Australian delegation was accompanied to Malacañang by Australian Ambassador T.W. Cutts.

Later this morning the President received 15 members of Congress who took up with him local problems. In the course of his meeting with the Congressmen, the President reenacted the signing into law of H. No. 5284, creating the Bureau of Dental Health Services and H. No. 403, which provides for the fluoridation of water supplies in the country, both authored and sponsored by Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado, chairman of the House committee on health.

Present at the signing ceremonies, aside from Rep. Labrido, were Drs. Genaro Felizardo and Bienvenido Eraña, present and past presidents of the Philippine Dental Association, respectively; Dr. Gervacio Eraña, Vice-Governor Germanico Carreon of Zamboanga del Norte, and some 25 members of the PDA.

The President also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party by Rep. Eladio Caliwara of Quezon of Dr. Sergio de Gala and Ildefonso Gurango, Nacionalista political leaders of the same province.

In the afternoon the President received ten groups of businessmen who consulted him on matters affecting the business community. He then presided over his regular weekly press conference.

President Macapagal appeared appeased today by reports that the \$30 million for an educational exchange fund from the \$73 million war damage payments for the Philippine would “meet the requirements of the economic development” of this country.

He told his weekly press conference that he had asked the “proper authorities” to check on the report, and gave away his feelings when he added that “anyway most of the claims were below” the \$25,000 ceiling for claims set by the amendment to the Philippine war damage law.

Reports said that the United States Senate had approved a conference committee report on the amendment which would set aside almost half the war damage payments for an educational exchange fund.

The amendment sets a ceiling of \$25,000 for each individual claim. The resulting savings of more than \$30 million would go to the exchange fund.

The President said that reports indicated the provisions for the educational exchange fund in the amendment were “broad enough to meet the economic development” problems of the country.

During the press conference, the President also:

1. Said he was confident “more than ever” that his Liberal Party would win the coming elections;
2. Said he was poised to take action on the request for the expansion of the agenda for the current special session;
3. Hedged anew when the question of the use of the imported from Thailand and Burma was brought up;
4. Confirmed reports that Agricultural Secretary Benjamin Gozon was seriously in the running for nomination by the Liberal Party for the governorship of Rizal.
5. Refused to comment on the reported description of Philippine democracy by Indonesian President Sukarno, who called it “commanding democracy;” and
6. Directed Press Secretary Leoncio Parunga, Jr., to ask the Secretary of Education to submit a report on the charges that private schools were charging exorbitant fees.

Asked to assess the chances of his party in the coming election now that both parties had proclaimed their respective senatorial candidates, the President said that from all indications his party would fare better than he expected.

The President pointed to the reception given by Manila to the candidates when they were proclaimed Friday and Saturday.

**July 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent most of the day today working on state papers.

This morning the President received Italian Ambassador Eugenio Rubino, who paid him a courtesy call. The Italian envoy returned a week ago from a two month vacation in Italy.

The Chief Executive then received Cagayan de Oro City Mayor Justiniano Borja, who also is chairman and general of the Mindanao Development Authority. He requested the release of funds for the MDA and his city. HE also took up with the President a proposal of the Reynolds Philippines Corporation to establish a multi-million peso aluminum plant in Iligan City.

**July 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received some 7,650 “Common Man’s Day” visitors today from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. He sipped soup and water brought to his table every now and then.

An acting Social Welfare Administrator the President had his assistants and distribute 80 sacks of rice, 54 cans of sardines, and medicines. He had to stop receiving the callers at 3 o’clock because he was to confer with Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, and other administration leaders. During his talk with the Congressional leaders, the President decided not to certify any new bills to Congress for lack of material time on the part of the legislators to consider new measures. The special session of Congress, which had been extended seven times, ended tonight.

The President also received Rep. Bagatsing, who saw him about the problem in the hands of the arbitration committee headed by Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, arising from Bagatsing’s bid to contest the LP nomination for official LP candidate for mayor of Manila. Which Bagatsing during the talk were Felix Buenaventura, president of the Manila LP Chapter; Exequiel T. Salonga, vice-president; and Councilor Sergio H. Loyola, Lucas Ocampo, Norberto Delgado, and Crisostomo Vitog. In the evening the President was guest speaker at the 43rd anniversary celebration of the American Chamber of Commerce at the Manila Polo Club.

**July 13.**—THIS morning President Macapagal inducted Mrs. Milagros R. Abella as chief of the office of the Presidential Assistant on Community Development (PACD). Present at the ceremony held in the President’s study this morning were Dr. Domingo Albella, Customs Commissioner Norberto Romualdez, and PAL Director Benigno Toda, Jr.

Also inducted by the Chief Executive in ceremonies held at the Malacañang reception hall in the afternoon were Undersecretary of National Defense Alberto de Joya and ranking officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines who were reappointed by the President following the failure of the Commission on Appointments to confirm their appointments.

The newly-inducted AFP officers were General Alfredo Santos, AFP Chief of Staff; Major Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, AFP vice-chief of Staff; Brigadier Generals Jonas Victoria and Eustaquio Orobia, PAF; Brigadier Generals Ernesto Mata and Valentin Velasco of PA; Brigadier Generals Nicanor Garcia, Rigoberto Atienza, Flaviano Olivarez, Ismael Lapuz, and Noe Dayot of the Philippine Constabulary; Commodore Juan B. Magluyan of the Philippine Navy;

Colonels Hilario G. Fusilero, Avelino E. Saucó, Modesto Montemayor, Eduardo Hipolito, Gregorio Yambao, Melchor A. Acosta, Jose E. Faustino, Eulalio Q. Jamilosa, Marcelino M. Santos, David A. Pelayo, Cesar E. Rodriguez, Romulo S. Dolojan, Arturo de los Reyes, Lorenzo Andrada and Juan N. Merchan of the Philippine Army; Colonels Rafael O. Ver, Augusto F. Gutierrez, Norberto Menina, Jose B. Regala, Antonio D. Garcia, and Gaudencio S. Gaddi of the Philippine Constabulary; Colonels Cesar Llanera, Ramon Hernandez, Ernesto del Castillo, Leonard T. Miciano, Antonio Evangelista, Cecilio G. Leoncio, and Arturo S. Baluyot of the Philippine Air Force; and Captains Primo G. Lavadia, Jesus M. Martinez, Antonio A. Sta. Maria, and Robert A. Pabbarah of the Philippine Navy.

The President spent most of the day working on pending state papers. In the evening the President and the First Lady were honored with a state dinner given by visiting King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit of Thailand at the Philamlife building on United Nations Avenue.

*Source: Supreme Court Library*

Macapagal, D. (1963). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 59 (28), ccxxi-ccxxv.

**President's Week in Review: August 1-17, 1963**

## President's Week in Review: August 18-24, 1963

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**August 18**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today motored to the Social Welfare Administration and held office briefly in his capacity as a seven-day barnstorming tour of Mindanao and Visayan provinces. On hand at the Nichols Airbase to welcome the President when he landed shortly before 3 p.m. were the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria.

The President woke up about 8 a.m. today on board the Navy destroyer *RPS Soliman*, which he had boarded in Silay City after addressing a public rally there last night.

Disembarking at Culasi port in Capiz at 1 p.m., the Chief Executive was met by Mayor Lorenzo Arnaldo of Rosas City, who showed him the dilapidated condition of the pier. The President authorized the release of P50, 000 for the repair of the wharf premises.

Then the President proceeded to the Roxas City airport where he boarded the presidential plane to Manila.

Later in the afternoon the President conferred with Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., who briefed him on the latest news developments.

**August 19**.—THE President received this morning U.S. Secretary of the Navy Fred Korth, who paid a courtesy call before leaving this afternoon for Guam and Hawaii. Korth was accompanied by US Navy Assistant Secretary John Dillon, and the two visiting American officials were taken to the President's study by US Ambassador William E. Stevenson.

President Macapagal conferred this noon with Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, who called to report on the sending of Philippine observers to the North Borneo territories. Secretary Lopez also discussed with the President the latest development on U.S. restrictions on the entry of Philippine garment exports.

Late in the afternoon the Chief Executive received Speaker Cornelio Villareal, who called to discuss political matters. The President cancelled all other engagements because he was suffering from a slight cold.

The President sent this morning a wreath through the Social Secretary's office to the tomb of the President Quezon on the occasion of Quezon Day.

The President today, Quezon Day, signed an order of commutation to life imprisonment of the death penalty of a convict.

Granted a new lease on life was Policarpio Tiongson, who was convicted of robbery with homicide, together with one Mauricio Navarro. Navarro's death sentence also had been commuted earlier to life imprisonment.

Tiongson was granted a 15-day reprieve last August 3, which ended today, for the President to study further the case. Tiongson's mother Maria Tolentino of Sta. Ana, Manila, called on the Chief Executive on "Common Man's Day" last August 2 to plead for presidential clemency.

The President acted favorably on the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

**August 20**.—PRESIDENT Macapagal today motored to the Social Welfare Administration and held office briefly in his capacity as acting SWA administrator.

The President conferred with the SWA officials, headed by Deputy Administrator Jose Quintos, and discussed plans of streamlining the office to be able to cope with his of cutting down on red tape to help needy.



While at the SWA, the President saw a widow, Mrs. Emilia S. Zamora who was following up her papers for cash assistance. The 61-year-old widow with nine children was one of the many victims in the Sampaloc fire last March 16.

Upon seeing the widow and learning of her plight, the President directed Mrs. Pilar Lozada, assistant chief of the field services division, to expedite the claim.

The President also inspected the different offices of the SWA.

At the administrator's office where he sat briefly as acting SWA head the President was shown the organizational chart. He inquired into the functions and problems of each section and division.

The President showed special interest in the activities of the Settlement and Housing Project section which attends to the problems of squatters, particularly in the city and the suburbs.

Among those who conferred with the President were Quintos; Teofilo Asuncion; Mrs. Aurora Udarbe Gonzales, executive assistant; and Miss Lily Rubio, private secretary to the administrator.

This morning the President cancelled his scheduled engagement with provincial governors and mayors. He also turned down a suggestion to him to go to Tarlac to proclaim Gov. Benigno S. Aquino as LP gubernatorial candidate of the province.

The President said he was still nursing a hoarse voice, and wanted to rest for sometime.

In the afternoon the President received Ambassador Benigno Toda, Sr., who returned to Manila from the Vatican.

**August 21.**—THIS morning the President received Ambassador Jacinto Borja, Philippine envoy to the United Nations, who called for final instructions, before returning to his post tomorrow.

The President also conferred with OEC Administrator Eleuterio Adevos, who consulted him on matters pertaining to his department.

At noon the Chief Executive had lunch with Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, and Senators Estanislao Fernandez and Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo. Also at the luncheon was Assistant Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar.

The Chief Executive spent the afternoon working on his foreign policy speech which he delivered at the MOPC.

This evening President and Mrs. Macapagal were guests of honor at the traditional "President's Night" sponsored annually by the Manila Overseas Press Club.

President Macapagal addressed the members of the Manila Overseas Press Club at their annual "President's Night" dinner.

He motored to the MOPC, accompanied by the First Lady, and after dinner with the foreign correspondents, he delivered his address which dwelt on the establishment of the "Maphilindo" and the abolition of tenancy in the country.

The President personally prepared his speech. He cancelled all his afternoon engagements, including the weekly press conference and the "Businessman's Day." It was the third consecutive week that the President had not met the press.

**August 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received Chinese Ambassador Tuan Mao-Ian, together with members of a visiting group representing the Chinese Buddhist Association of the Republic of China.

The group headed by Ven Pai-sheng, chairman, expressed appreciation for the treatment being accorded by the Philippine Government to Chinese Buddhists in this country. They presented the President with a 25-volume collection of Buddhist scriptures in Chinese.

Earlier the President received Monsignor Salvatore Siino, Apostolic Nuncio, who paid a courtesy call.

At 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon the President boarded the *RPS Soliman* a week's visit to the Visayas.

He is scheduled to cover the coastal towns of Samar and then sail to Leyte for another two-day stump before proceeding to Iloilo, where he will hold the first out-of-town "Common Mans Day" in Iloilo City.

The President having recovered from a hoarse voice and cold which he contracted during his first hectic stump of Mindanao and Sulu and Occidental Negros, decided to continue his campaign to shore up shaky Liberal Party positions in the South.

Before leaving for Pier 5 to board the Navy destroyer escort, the President had lunch in Malacañang with labor leaders whom he invited in an effort to insure the support of the labor elements in the country.

The labor leaders whom he invited were mostly members of the newly-formed *Lapiang Mangagagawa*, which recently coalesced with the Liberal Party and deserted Roberto S. Oca, leader of the striking arrastre workers who was recently chosen as the NP candidate for the city mayoralty.

The President signed today Proclamation No. 149, declaring August 23, as a special public holiday in Quezon City.

Tomorrow, Friday, marks the 67th anniversary of the *Cry of Pugad Lawin*, which the President said is "a historic event in our struggle for freedom."

The Chief Executive issued the proclamation "to give the residents of Quezon City, where the event took place, ample opportunity to celebrate the event with appropriate ceremonies."

**August 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had a good rest today. In his cabin aboard the *RPS Soliman* he occasionally went over state papers which he took along in his tour of Samar, Leyte, and Iloilo provinces.

The President is scheduled to arrive in Balañgiga, Samar, tomorrow morning where he will start a two-day tour of the province.

Press Secretary Leondo R. Paruñgao, Jr., who saw the President in his cabin, said later the President is waiting for an official report from the foreign office before commenting on the situation in South Vietnam.

At the same time Paruñgao said the President would fill up all positions to be vacated by high officials running for elective posts before September 12, the deadline for the filing of certificates of candidacy.

Among those being groomed by President Macapagal for appointment are:

1. Jacinto Montilla as member of the board of governors of the Development Bank of the Philippines;
2. Benito Montinola as undersecretary of agriculture in place of Montilla;
3. Pedro de Peralta as general manager of the Manila Railroad Company, vice Paulino T. Cases; and

4. Paulino T. Cases as chairman of the MRR board of directors, vice Simeon Medalla who was recently named chairman of the board of the directors of the Philippine Veterans Bank.

Paruñgao said that the next move on the pier strike is up to the Hehcanova-Perez-Abes committee which had been given a free hand by the President to handle the customs controversy.

**August 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal opened today in Llorente, Samar, a gruelling two-day barstorming tour of the province with a strong appeal to the people not to abandon the cause for which they had elected him as President in 1961.

Addressing a series of public rallies in 11 eastern and southern coastal towns of Samar the President asked the Samareños to support his administration by electing a straight Liberal Party ticket this coming election to enable him to carry on successfully with his “peaceful revolution” designed to provide a better life for the people.

The President cited anew the accomplishments of his administration during the past one and one-half years, like the enactment of a law abolishing tenancy. He said that more could be accomplished if Nacionalista control of the Senate is ended.

President Macapagal started the campaign at Balañgiga, where he had disembarked this morning from the *RPS Rajah Soliman* which dropped at San Pedro Bay. From there, he rode through tortuous roads to Borongan for the final rally of the day. The whole-day ride reminded members of the presidential party of bronco riding as they rambled along in shaking jeeps. There was a continuous heavy rain in almost all the towns he visited.

The President is scheduled to sail for Catarman this evening for the second day of his tour of Samar.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: August 25-31, 1963

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**August 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal pleaded today for popular support for a straight Liberal Party ticket to enable him to accomplish what the people had entrusted him to do when they elected him to the Presidency in 1961.

In speeches before huge crowds in Calbayog City and in five northern towns of Samar, the President said that he could pursue relentlessly and successfully his “unfinished revolution” only with the support of the people.

The Chief Executive said that he is fighting for the liberation of the people from vested interests and reactionaries because he felt that the people are with him.

An early morning rally at Catarman today kicked off the President's second day tour of Samar.

A big crowd led by Rep. Felipe Abrigo, Board Member Jacinto Tubes, and Caturmnn Vice-Mayor Bindoy de Loreño were on hand as the wharf as he disembarked from a Navy launch which ferried him from the *RPS Rajah Soliman*, anchored some five miles from the shore.

From Catarman, the President proceeded to Bobon, hometown of Rep. Balite, where the townspeople elbowed one another to shake his hand. Some 200 farmers riding on carabaos put up an impressive parade, bearing banners thanking the Chief Executive for the enactment of a law abolishing the three-century old share tenancy system.

Then the President motored through dusty roads to San Jose, where another big crowd had gathered since early morning to hear him speak.

Back at the Navy destroyer shortly before noon, the President steamed to a small fishing town of San Isidro which was seeing a Chief Executive for the first time.

An estimated 20,000 people jammed the city's wharf and streets on the President's arrival in Catarman this afternoon. The crowd followed him to the Saint Vincent church where a *Te Deum* was sung in his honor.

From Calbayog the Chief Executive will sail for Catbalogan for the last public rally of the day before proceeding for another two-day campaign tour in Leyte tomorrow.

**August 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived here late this afternoon after traveling some 116 kilometers of dusty and muddy roads during which he barnstormed through eight north-eastern towns of Leyte on the third leg of a whirlwind campaign of Eastern Visayan provinces.

In spite of intermittent rains that dogged the Chief Executive's route since he left Carigara where he had landed this morning from the *RPS Rajah Soliman*, the people stood with rapt attention as the President rallied the electorates behind the Administration's program to improve the lot of the masses.

The President officiated in the laying of the cornerstones of two government projects. He also officiated in the inauguration of the Eastern Visayan regional office of the National Cottage Industry Development Authority in Calbayog City and in the groundbreaking of a P7 million Palo-Carigara road cement paving.

At the boundary of the city and Palo the President was met by Gov. Ildefonso Cinco and City Mayor Artemio Mate.

During the rally at the plaza Treinta de Diciembre in Calbayog, the President proclaimed Commissioner Norberto Romualdez, Jr., as official LP gubernatorial candidate.

The President stayed overnight at the Romualdez residence.

**August 27.**—THE President closed his evening stump of the Eastern Visayas. Though his voice sounded hoarse, the President expressed optimism that his campaign has swung the Nacionalista-dominated provinces of Samar, Leyte del Sur, and Leyte del Norte behind the administration candidates in the November election.

The President travelled some 150 kilometers of bad roads with whistle stops in, several towns, starting from Tacloban City where he stayed overnight. He stumped through the towns of Abuyog, Tolosa, Dagami, Burauen, Julita, Dulag, Mayorga, Mac Arthur, Bugho, Mahaplag, Baybay, Inopaoan, Hindang, Hilongos, Bato, Matalom, and Maasin.

He had lunch at the residence of former Gov. Catalino Landia.

Former Customs Commissioner Norberto Romualdez, Jr., whom the President proclaimed LP candidate for governor of Leyte, Economic Coordinator Eleuterio Adevoso, and Rep. Primo Villasin saw the President off at the Maasin wharf, where he boarded a whaleboat that will ferry him to the *RPS Soliman*.

The President is scheduled to arrive at Estancia, Iloilo, tomorrow morning.

The President today issued a proclamation declaring Friday, August 30, this year as a special public holiday in Bulacan province, in commemoration of the 113th birth anniversary of the hero and patriot, Marcelo H. del Pilar.

He said that the people of the hero's home province should be given full opportunity to celebrate Plaridel's birthday with fitting ceremonies.

Del Pilar used the *non de plume* "Plaridel" in his struggles in Spain to obtain reforms for the Philippines during the Spanish regime. He was born in Bulacan, Bulacan, on August 30, 1850.

**August 28.**—THE President arrived in Estancia, Iloilo, at one this afternoon, five hours behind schedule. He was met by Gen. Dominador Garcia, chief of Constabulary, and Liberal Party officials in Iloilo Province.

After a brief rally in Estancia, President Macapagal motored to the residence of Rep. Jose Aldeguer in Sara, where he inducted into the Liberal Party two Nacionalista leaders, former Mayor Domingo Dumaraog of San Dionisio and Serafin Tad-y.

The President had a snack at the residence of the Belleza family in Barotac Viejo and then motored to Dumangas with whistle stops along the way.

From Dumangas, he proceeded to Pototan where he was met this evening by a large crowd headed by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, who flew to Iloilo Province this afternoon to join the stumping Chief Executive.

He is scheduled to spend the night at the residence of Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado. He is also scheduled to address a rally at Pototan, Iloilo tonight.

**August 29**—STARTING his stump this morning at Pototan, Iloilo, in the residence of Rep. Ricardo U. Ladrado, the President later motored to Janiway where he was joined by Rep. Ramon Tabiana. They proceeded to Dingle, and then Dueñas, Passi, Galinog, and Lambukiao.

When, he arrived in Janiway for lunch in the residence of Jose Locsin, the President's voice sounded faint and hoarse. He refused to talk to news men to conserve his voice for his speeches. Only Mrs. Macapagal chatted with the newsmen.

From Janiway, the President made whistlestops in Cabatuan and Sta. Barbara before proceeding to Iloilo City with brief rallies in Pavia and Jaro districts.

The President had dinner at the residence of Executive Secretary Rufino Hechanova before addressing tonight's rally at Sunburst Park.

President Macapagal breezed into Iloilo City late this evening and prepared to address a rally which he expected to be the biggest in the whole province. Early this afternoon, however, there were fears that the political meeting may be rained out.

The President was joined in Iloilo City by Speaker Cornelio Villareal, Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.

The President arrived in Iloilo with the First Lady, who flew to Iloilo City yesterday afternoon to accompany the Chief Executive in his town-to-town barnstorming tour for LP senatorial candidates.

President Macapagal, together with the First Lady, was guest of honor this afternoon at the inauguration and blessing of the new building and offices of the Merchants Banking Corporation on Padre Faura and Mabini Streets. They were fetched from Malacañang by Mr. and Mrs. Vincent L. Recto, Mr. and Mrs. Felix K. Lirag, and Mr. and Mrs. Macario G. Palanca at 5:25 p.m.

**August 30.**—THE President and the First Lady had breakfast today at the residence of Salvador Sarabia.

They decided to return to Manila by plane to be in time for the Magsaysay Awards ceremony tomorrow.

Before taking off from Iloilo, the President conducted his first out-of-town "Common Man's Day" at the University of San Agustin gymnasium, where he received some 2,000 callers. The President, assisted by the First Lady and his Common Man's Day staff, received the general public in Iloilo City from 9:15 to 12:15 p.m.

Among the callers were Roque Divino, Salvador Hechanova, and Mrs. Consuelo S. Pendon.

Divino saw the President to seek financial aid for his poultry project. The President referred him to Administrator Jovito Rivera of the National Cottage Industry Development Administration.

After receiving some 2,000 callers, the President and the First Lady motored to the residence of Rep. Ramon Tabiana in Iloilo City where they had lunch.

After lunch the President and Mrs. Macapagal motored to the Mandurriao airport and took off for Manila aboard the presidential plane. Government officials, headed by Rep. Tabiana and Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, saw the President and Mrs. Macapagal off.

The President returned at 3:45 p.m. today after a hectic barnstorming tour of Samar, Leyte del Norte, Leyte del Sur, and Iloilo. The Chief Executive accompanied by the First Lady, arrived aboard the presidential Fokker Friendship plane *Common Man* at the Nichols Air Base.

President Macapagal today issued a proclamation declaring Saturday, August 31, this year as a special public holiday in Zambales in commemoration of the 56th birth anniversary of President Magsaysay.

The President observed that "in the few years that God gave him to serve our people, President Magsaysay made himself a true brother and earnest defender of the common man, dedicated himself to improving the public service and did everything for the advancement of the Republic."

The Chief Executive directed Ambassador Manuel G. Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer, to have a wreath laid on the tomb of the late President. He also directed Col. Victor Dizon, senior military aide, to have a contingent of the Presidential Guard Battalion stand guard at the President's mausoleum in the North cemetery the whole day tomorrow.

**August 31.**—THIS morning the President rested after his hectic barnstorming tour of Eastern Visayas and Iloilo province. He is still nursing a hoarse voice.

He did not receive any callers, even Cabinet members who had sought audience with the Chief Executive in connection with official matters.

President Macapagal today presented the 1963 awards to six outstanding personalities chosen by the Ramon Magsaysay Foundation in connection with the former President's 56th birth anniversary. The ceremony was held at the Philamlife auditorium.

Presented with the RM awards were Afkter Hammed Khan of Pakistan for government service; Helen Kim of Korea for public service; Dara N. Khurody, Tribhuvandas K. Patel, and Vorghese Kurien of India for community leadership; and the T.J. S. Peace Corps in Asia for international understanding.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to the Philamlife auditorium shortly after 3 o'clock this afternoon and was received by a large crowd headed by General Jesus Vargas, chairman of the board of trustees of the Foundation.

After the ceremonies the President and the First Lady returned to the Palace.

This evening President Macapagal approved the retirement of General Ricardo Papa, Dominador Garcia, and Eustacio Orobia, and the designation of the following:

1. Gen. Ernesto Mata, as commanding general of the Philippine Army, in place of Gen. Papa;
2. Gen. Nicanor Garcia, as chief of the Philippine Constabulary, in place of Gen. D. Garcia; and
3. Col. Godofredo Mendoza, as acting superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy, in place of Gen. Orobia.

The President's approval of the retirement of the three generals, as well as his designation of their replacements, was recommended by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr. The approval of the retirement of the three generals was in line with the Administration's policy of implementing the retirement law which affords ranking officers an opportunity to assume positions of military leadership.

The President today issued a proclamation declaring Monday, September 2, this year, a special public holiday in Nueva Ecija and Cabanatuan City.

The President, in his proclamation, observed that September 2 "marks an important event in our struggle for freedom, particularly to the people of Nueva Ecija whose people rose in revolt against Spain on that day in 1836 under the leadership of Gen. Mariano Llanera."

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: September 1-7, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**September 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent most of his time today at his private study in Malacañang working on pending state papers and going over new appointments.

In the afternoon he stood sponsor at baptism of a son of Dr. Francisco Tangco, director of the Philippine General Hospital, at a ceremony held at the Manila Pro-Cathedral. With the President when he went to the cathedral were the First Lady, their daughter, Gloria, and the President's mother-in-law, Mrs. Irinea Vda. de Macaraeg.

About 6 p.m., the President and members of his family heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. Then the President and the First Lady motored to the Quezon City residence of Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, who was celebrating his 33rd birthday.

This evening the President addressed simultaneous political rallies and proclaimed Col. Jose Maristela, former chief of the criminal investigation service of the Philippine Constabulary, and Vice-Mayor Ansberto Paredes as Liberal Party mayoralty candidates for Caloocan and Pasay cities, respectively.

The President first motored to Caloocan City to proclaim Maristela, who had postponed his previous scheduled proclamation last July 25 to await the return of President Macapagal from his barnstorming tour of Eastern Visayas and Iloilo.

**September 2.**—THIS morning the Chief Executive received Speaker Cornelio Villareal, who called to discuss the holding of a special election for congressman from the first district of Batangas.

The Speaker had earlier certified to the existence of a vacancy with the death of Rep. Apolinario R. Apacible of that province.

This afternoon the President conferred with Sen. Estanislao Fernandez on political matters. President Macapagal, together with the First Lady, was guest of honor this afternoon at the inauguration and blessing of the new building and offices of the Merchants Banking Corporation on Padre Faura and Mabini Streets. They were fetched from Malacañang by Mr. and Mrs. Vicente L. Recto, Mr. and Mrs. Felix R. Lirag, and Mr. and Mrs. Macario G. Palanca, at 5:25 p.m.

From the inaugural ceremonies of the Merchants Banking Corporation, the First Couple drove along Roxas Boulevard (formerly Dewey) and returned to Malacañang at 8:40 p.m.

The President spent the rest of the day studying state papers.

The President issued today a proclamation calling for a special election in the first congressional district of Batangas on November 12.

The purpose is to fill a vacancy in the Lower House created by the death of Rep. Apolinario R. Apacible.

The special election will coincide with the general elections for provincial and municipal officials and eight senators.

In his proclamation the President specified that the provisions of the Revised Election Code shall be followed in the conduct of the special election insofar as they are applicable.



**September 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today motored to the Sapang Palay relocation area in San Jose del Monte, Bulacan, in connection with his unified housing program for the poor and the homeless.

Accompanied by the First Lady and Manuel Feliciano, the President left Malacañang just before 9 o'clock this morning and inquired into the living conditions of some 2,500 families who had been relocated in San Jose del Monte.

During his talk with the settlers the President approved on the spot the requests of the squatter families for the construction of a bridge leading to their settlement and the establishment of a health center in the area.

This afternoon the President received the credentials of Ambassador Shumuel Shelef and John Mansfield Addis, new envoys of Israel and the United Kingdom, respectively, to the Philippines in presentation ceremonies held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

The Israeli envoy was conveyed to and from Malacañang by the Cadillac convertible recently acquired by the government primarily for ceremonial occasions.

Upon their arrival at Malacañang, the two newly-accredited ambassadors were rendered military honors by a company of the Presidential Guards Battalion under Lt. Col. Benjamin Tolentino.

Present at the ceremonies were members of the Cabinet headed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez.

This afternoon the President received Puerto Rican Senate President Samuel Quiñones, who paid him a courtesy call. Quiñones arrived yesterday afternoon with his wife on a two-day social visit here. He was accompanied in his call on the Chief Executive by Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong and Rep. Godofredo Ramos, chairmen of the Senate and the House foreign relations committees, respectively.

This evening President Macapagal proclaimed former Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon as LP candidate for governor of Rizal. Accompanied by the First Lady, the President motored to Malabon, Rizal, early this evening where the proclamation rally was held.

**September 4.**—THIS morning the President played a four-hole game of golf alone for an hour at the Malacañang greens. Dressed in rust-colored T-shirt and light brown pants to match, the Chief Executive teed off at 8:10 a.m.

After having played for 40 minutes, the President was joined by Sen. Estanislao Fernandez. Senator Fernandez did not reveal the score. He commented however that the Chief Executive was "picking up."

"He is now a golfer and can go around," the Senator said. "He has passed the training stage."

On hand to coach the President was Francisco Agbulos, Malacañang recreation officer and a golfer himself.

Back at Malacañang at 9:15 a.m., the President rested a while and then buckled down to work on state papers.

**September 5.**—THE President motored this morning to Valenzuela, Bulacan, and conducted on-the-spot inquiries as to whether or not the people there wanted a merger of their town with Polo.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President also visited the *Bago Bantay* relocation area in Quezon City and looked into the living conditions of its residents.

The President administered the oath of office to three ambassadors in ceremonies held at Malacañang today upon his return from Bago Bantay.

Inducted were Vicente Albano Pacis as ambassador to the United Nations headquarters in Geneva, Mauro Baradi as ambassador to Nigeria, and Marcial Lichauco as ambassador to the Court of St. James.

The President had an informal luncheon meeting with government officials and representatives of the private sector at Malacañang this noon.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive conferred with Ambassador Narciso Ramos. Ramos recently returned from his post in Taipeh.

Then the President presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

**September 6**—THIS morning the President held his second out-of-town “Common Man’s Day” in Pasay City. Assisted by the First Lady, the President received a total of 3,275 persons at the Lacson Colleges on Harrison Street from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

President Macapagal proclaimed Vice-Mayor Vicente Novales of Quezon City as official Liberal Party mayoralty candidate in that city in the coming elections.

The proclamation was held at a public rally in Project 3 of Quezon City this evening. The President was accompanied to the rally by the First Lady.

After the public rally in Quezon City, the President boarded the *RPS Rajah Soliman* at the Philippine Navy headquarters on Roxas Boulevard for a week-long tour of Mindanao and Visayan provinces.

**September 7.**—ABOARD *RPS Rajah Soliman*, President Macapagal devoted his day today to working on state papers and reading some books which he took along on his third major campaign to the Visayas and Mindanao for the victory of Liberal Party candidates. The President spent most of the day within the confines of his cabin aboard the Navy destroyer escort en route to Cebu on the first leg of his scheduled weeklong barnstorming tour.

Among the books taken along by the President were *Progress and Poverty* by Henry George and *Ordeal of Power* by Emmet John Hughes.

The latter had been given to him by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez.

The President’s first day out at sea was comparatively smooth, occasioned only by moderate listing and tossing early this morning and before noon as the naval ship approached the Sibuyan Sea.

After his morning breakfast the President started going over the state papers, including the list of proposed appointments to pending vacancies which he said he will announce upon his return to Manila next week-end.

While resting on the top deck of the destroyer escort, the President met two accompanying Manila newsmen for a long press interview. The newsmen were joined by Commodore Juan Magluyan, Philippine Navy chief.

The President said he was writing and reading while aboard, sometimes writing short briefs on his autobiographies and sometimes reading books.

President Macapagal issued today a proclamation turning over to the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation a 26-hectare portion of the former United States naval reservation site in Diliman, Quezon City.

The President turned over the parcel of public land to the PHHC “for purposes of development, sales and settlement”.

According to the proclamation, the remaining portion of the former naval site, consisting of some 10 hectares, will continue to be reserved for military purposes under the administration of the chief of staff of the Armed Forces.

The President today issued another proclamation declaring Monday, September 9, as a special public holiday in Cebu province and in the Cities of Cebu, Danao, Lapu-Lapu, and Toledo, in commemoration of the birth anniversary of the late Sergio Osmeña, Sr., second President of the Commonwealth.

In his proclamation the President stated that at least the people of the late President's province should be afforded an opportunity to celebrate the event with appropriate ceremonies.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: September 8-14, 1963

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**September 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Barili, Cebu, shortly after noon from Toledo City where he landed from the Philippine Navy destroyer escort *Rajah Soliman* in the first leg of his two-day stump of Cebu province.

He was met by Mayor Librada Pace and a large crowd. The President arrived there with Representatives Tereso Dumon, Manuel Zosa, and Maximino Noel, and senatorial candidates Tecla San Andres-Ziga and Manuel Cuenco. The President had lunch at the residence of Mayor Pace.

Earlier, the President landed in Toledo City where he was met by Cebu officials headed by Nacionalista Gov, Francisco Remotigue. After a *Te Deum* in Toledo City church, the President addressed a rally on the city plaza.

He batted for Social Security Administrator Rene Espina whom he will formally proclaim as Liberal gubernatorial candidate in Cebu City tomorrow night.

Mayor Marcel Barba of Toledo City also met him. In Pinamungahan the President was met by Nacionalista Mayor Emilio Lumonta, Jr., and accompanied him to the town plaza where he addressed another rally.

From Pinamungahan President Macapagal proceeded to Barili town with whistle stops in Alginsan. From there, the President is scheduled to proceed to Samboan where he will conduct a public rally tonight. He is also scheduled to stay there overnight.

From Barili he will pass through Alcantara, Moalboal, Badian, Alegria, Malabuyoc, and Ginatilan. He is scheduled to proceed to Cebu City tomorrow night where he will be met by the First Lady, who is scheduled to fly in from Manila.

**September 9.**—THE President started his second and final political campaign in the heavy voting province of Cebu early this morning in Samboan, where he spent the night in the residence of Mayor Florencio Rusiana.

From Samboan the President moved northward with whistle stops in Santander, Boljoon, Dalaquila, Argao, Oslob, Alcoy, Sibonga, Carcar, Naga, Minglanilla, Talisay, and San Fernando before entering Cebu City.

In Naga the President found the First Lady, who arrived from Cebu City earlier, to meet him. The President, with the First Lady, witnessed the formal turnover ceremonies of the Cebu Portland Cement plant to the Apo Cement Corporation.

President Macapagal arrived in Cebu City last evening accompanied by the First Lady who met him in Naga this afternoon. The President with Cebu LP officials was welcomed in Cebu City by a large crowd which lined the city's streets to witness his arrival.

The President is scheduled to address a rally in Freedom Park, where he will proclaim Rene Espina as the LP candidate for governor of Cebu.

After the rally President Macapagal is scheduled to sail for three islets off Surigao tomorrow and Wednesday.

President Macapagal declined to comment on a report that the Philippines and Indonesia were plotting a new joint move to block the formation of a Malaysia federation.

He told newsmen in Naga this afternoon that he had not received an official report of the matter from Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez.

**September 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had a comparatively restful day today on the third day of his third campaign tour of Visayan and Mindanao provinces. He held only two major public rallies, one in Lioña, Surigao del Norte, and the other in Tandag, Surigao del Sur, this afternoon.

The President normally averages eight speeches a day in his political sorties to support Liberal Party candidates in the November elections. Aside from a lighter schedule, the Chief Executive also travelled by ship, frog-leaping from one town to another, instead of going overland through rough and dusty roads.

The President was met by a large crowd led by Rep, Vicente Pimentel on Arrival at the wharf in Lioña this evening aboard the *RPS Rajah Soliman*. After acknowledging the cheers of his welcomers, the President proceeded to the town plaza for his second public rally of the day.

In his speeches the President exhorted the people of Surigao to vote for Liberal Party candidates to enable him to proceed smoothly with his program of providing opportunities for a better life for all the people.

The Chief Executive arrived in Tandag at 2 p.m. today after an overnight and a half-a-day sea voyage from Cebu City. Following a *Te Deum* sung in his honor the President addressed a public rally held at the local plaza.

The Chief Executive is scheduled to land in Cateel, Davao, early tomorrow morning to start his two-day campaign tour of that province.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal sent messages of felicitations to Senate President Ferdinand Marcos and Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal on the occasion of their birthdays tomorrow. In a wire dispatched from the *RPS Rajah Soliman* this evening, the President wished the two Congress leaders "long life in the service of our people."

**September 11.**—PEOPLE of the coastal town of Manay, Davao, in the Pacific turned out en masse to welcome President Macapagal late this afternoon on the first day of his barnstorming tour of isolated towns in that province. Sailing on heaving waters of the Pacific, the President reached Manay on the *RPS Soliman* after stumping in Cateel, Baganga, and Caraga earlier today.

Since no roads connect the towns, the President had to sail almost the whole day. He kept going up and down a whaleboat which conveyed him to the shores of the towns he visited.

In his speeches the President made scathing indictments of the Nacionalista senatorial candidates who, he said, are nothing but tools of powerful men out to destroy his administration through legislative sabotage.

The President arrived at Cateel at 8 a.m. today where he was met by Sen. Gaudencio Antonino and local officials headed by Lorenzo Sarmiento, official LP gubernatorial candidate in Davao. From there, the presidential party is scheduled to proceed to Davao City by way of Manila and Malalag for a grand rally in the province, during which he will proclaim Sarmiento.

**September 12.**—THE President started the final drive in the southern coastal Davao towns this morning in Malita where he addressed a political rally.

After the rally in Malita he boarded the *RPS Soliman* which took him to Malalag. En route to Malalag, the President inducted Jose Abad Santos town Mayor John Joyce, a Nacionalista, into the Liberal Party, aboard the Navy destroyer escort. The induction was witnessed by Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, and other Davao leaders, including Deputy Budget Commissioner Amable Aguilus, who has joined the President in his trip.

President Macapagal had lunch in the residence of Health Undersecretary Rodolfo Caños in Digos and merienda, in the residence of Mayor Dominador Bendigo of Sta. Cruz. From Malalag, the President motored to Davao City with whistle stops in Digos and Sta. Cruz. He is scheduled to have dinner in the residence of Sarmiento where the President and the First Lady will spend the night.

President Macapagal arrived early this evening in the climax of his two-day stump of vote-rich Davao province. He is scheduled to address a political rally there tonight and endorse Lorenzo Sarmiento and Carmelo Porras as Liberal gubernatorial and mayoralty candidates.

The President upon arrival was met by the First Lady, who flew in early this afternoon with Mrs. Rose and Col. Victor Dizon

His voice hoarse, the President unfazed by the rough voyage through the Pacific Ocean off the eastern coast of Davao before debarking in Malalag town, breezed into Davao City in streets lined with people. The President was accompanied by Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, and Sarmiento.

**September 13.**—THE third out-of-town Common Man's day held in Davao City today saw a crowd of 3,187 calling on President Macapagal on various matters.

Starting at 9:15 a.m., the President received the general public up to 1 p.m. at the spacious PTA stadium. He was assisted by the First Lady, Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, Mayor Carmelo Porras, and gubernatorial candidate Lorenzo Sarmiento.

With land problems making the bulk of matters attended to by the Chief Executive, others included requests for release of funds for school buildings, installation and repairs of artesian wells, hospitalization and medical assistance, and early disposal of pending criminal and administrative cases.

A pitiable two-year old boy, Victoriano, was brought in by his mother Cristina Basa to the President, who requested hospitalization for her sight less son owing to congenital oclusion of the pupils.

The Chief Executive, through Dr. Francisco Casanova to whom the case was referred, endorsed the boy to the provincial hospital with instructions that, if the local hospital has no sufficient facilities, the boy should be taken to Manila for possible operation.

Gabriel Lintoda, a cripple from Davao City, asked the President for financial assistance to buy tools for watch repairing.

**September 14.**— A TER allowing Friday the 13th to pass in Davao City, President Macapagal finally boarded the presidential *Fokker Friendship* plane and winged back to Manila, ending his political slumps in Mindanao and Visayas.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady and Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, landed at the Nichols Air Base at 12:25 p.m. today.

President Macapagal was scheduled to take the Philippine Navy destroyer-escort *RPS Rajah Soliman* yesterday but was prevailed upon to stay in Davao City by the more superstitious group advising him.

He spent the night at the Davao City residence of Secretary Valencia and, after eating his breakfast this morning, motored to the Francisco Bangoy airport in Davao City to enplane for Manila.

Upon his arrival in Malacañang, the President had lunch with the members of his family. He belatedly greeted his son, Diosdado, Jr., a happy birthday.

Diosdado marked his birthday today and, although the President wanted to be home to be with his son, he was prevailed upon not to travel.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: September 15-21, 1963

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**September 15**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met this morning with his foreign policy advisers and discussed the latest developments concerning Malaysia.

The two-hour meeting at the Malacañang Palace porch was attended by Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado D. Cayco, National Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Sens. Raul Manglapus and Lorenzo Sumulong, Reps. Godofredo Ramos and Jovito Salonga, and Ambassador Juan Arreglado.

Earlier this morning the President and his family heard mass at the Malacañang chapel.

The Chief Executive spent the rest of the day going over pending state papers.

**September 16**.—PRESIDENT Macapagal inducted Rice and Corn Administrator Jose Y. Feliciano as concurrently acting secretary of agriculture, vice Benjamin Gozon who resigned recently to run as Liberal Party candidate for governor of Rizal.

The Chief Executive inducted Feliciano in the presence of his intimate friends.

The President and the First Lady were principal guests at the formal inauguration this afternoon of the hydrofoil service of the Tourist Hotels and Travel Corporation (THTC). The ceremony was held at the hydrofoil terminal of the THTC south of the Quirino grandstand.

The First Couple were fetched from Malacañang by Mr. and Mrs. Robert O. Phillips and they left for the inaugural site at 4:25 p.m. Phillips is THTC president.

The First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon, formally opening the Manila hydrofoil terminal, and the premises were blessed by Msgr. Salvatore Siino, dean of the diplomatic corps.

After the inauguration and blessing, the President led diplomatic dignitaries, prominent members of the Italian community, and newsmen on an eight-minute cruise in Manila Bay on board the hydrofoil. During the cruise the President told Mr. Phillips that he was fully supporting the hydrofoil project which he said was in consonance with the Administration's policy of promoting tourism.

The hydrofoil is a fast-moving ship which skims over the water with its foils at a speed of between 30 to 35 knots. The keel of the vessel rises above the water as it gains speed.

After the cruise the First Couple had a snack with Msgr. Salvatore Siino, Ambassador Eugenio Rubino of Italy, and officials of the THTC.

President and Mrs. Macapagal were back at Malacañang at 5:45 p.m. The Chief Executive spent the rest of the day working on state papers.

President Macapagal has signed a proclamation No. 159, declaring September 17, this year, as a special public holiday in the province of Tarlac.

Tomorrow marks the birth anniversary of Francisco Makabulos, one of the outstanding Filipino generals in the revolutionary wars against Spain and the United States.



The Chief Executive issued the directive “to give the people of Tarlac, the birthplace of Makabulos, the full opportunity to celebrate his birthday anniversary with appropriate ceremonies.”

**September 17.**—THE President spent the morning putting the finishing touches to his address.

At noon he had a luncheon conference on party matters with Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Senators Raul Manglapus and Estanislao Fernandez, and Assistant Executive Secretary Calixto Zaldivar.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive conferred with UP President Carlos P. Romulo on problems of the state university. After the meeting the President authorized the release of P300.000 from the UP savings last year.

President Macapagal was guest speaker and inducting officer this evening at a dinner of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel.

In his address the President announced an Administration program for injecting new strength and vigor into existing high-priority industries that have been financially distressed as a result of decontrol by mobilizing resources at the command of the government to assist them.

Before delivering his speech the Chief Executive inducted the following newly-elected CCP officers and directors:

Domingo Arcega, president; Demetrio A. Muñoz, vice-president and chairman, committee on ways and means; Francisco C. Delgado, director and chairman, committee on public utilities; Teofilo Reyes, Jr., director and chairman, committee on industry and manufactures; Aurelio Periquet, Jr., director and chairman, committee on commerce; Vincent L. Recto, director and chairman, committee on foreign trade; Pio Pedrosa, director and chairman, committee on banking and financial institutions; Jose P. Tambunting, director and chairman, committee on taxation and legislation; Clemente C. Abella, director and chairman, committee on labor; Perfecto Mañalac, director and chairman, committee on public works and communications; P. B. Dionisio, director and chairman, committee on agriculture and natural resources; and Benito F. Medina, secretary-treasurer.

With the President at the Manila Hotel affair was the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal. He was introduced by CCP Director Francisco C. Delgado.

**September 28.**—THIS morning the President received Mayor Antonio Villegas, Vice-Mayor Herminio Astorga, and all 20 Liberal candidates for the city council, who requested the release of public works funds and reported on the progress of the party campaign in the city.

He also administered the oath of office to Col. Simeon Medalla as chairman of the board of trustees of the Philippine Veterans Bank and the following newly-appointed board members: Commodore Jose Andrada, Mrs. Basilia M. Baja, Col. Frisco San Juan. Major Eugenio Recto, Col. Jose Tando, Mrs. Yay Marking, Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Brig. Gen. Dionisio Ojeda, Dr. Magno Jamito, and PVA Deputy Administrator Juan Gacad.

Among those present to witness the ceremony were PVB President Primitivo Lovina and Manila Port Service General Manager Julian Chavez.

This afternoon the President received the credentials of Ambassador Julien van Caloen de Basseghem new Belgian envoy to the Philippines, in a ceremony held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

During the presentation ceremony, the President expressed confidence that the ties of friendship and understanding which had steadily evolved between their two countries would be further strengthened by the new envoy.

Ambassador Basseghem was escorted to the Palace by Minister Manuel Collantes, and was rendered military honors upon his arrival by a company of the Presidential Guards Battalion under Lt. Col. Benjamin Tolentino.

Present during the ceremony were members of the Cabinet headed by Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado D. Cayco.

President Macapagal today conferred with Indonesian Foreign Minister Raden Subandrio on Malaysia and other matters of mutual interest between Indonesia and the Philippines.

Subandrio planed in late this afternoon and proceeded directly to the Palace for his meeting with the President. He was accompanied to Malacañang by Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt., Pamontjak.

President Macapagal today declared the period from December 8 to 14, 1963, as Government Employees Week.

In Proclamation No. 161 the President said it is necessary that government employees be encouraged to achieve greater efficiency in the government service. He added that the attainment of this objective “demands that public attention be focused on the invaluable services rendered by government employees.”

**September 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today appointed Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes as acting chairman and administrator of the Social Security System.

The President made the appointment shortly before leaving for Pangasinan to campaign for the Liberal Party senatorial candidates.

Secretary Abes replaced former SSS Chairman Norberto Romualdez, Jr., and former SSS Administrator Rene Espina, who had resigned to run for governor of their respective provinces, Leyte del Sur and Cebu.

Following his appointment, Secretary Abes took his oath of office before Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova in a simple ceremony at Malacañang.

President Macapagal started his first stump in Luzon today in the First Lady’s home province of Pangasinan. He left Malacañang at 8 o’clock in the morning and arrived in Tayug shortly after high noon.

Accompanied by Mrs. Macapagal, the Chief Executive was met in the Tarlac-Pangasinan boundary by a large crowd headed by former Health Secretary Francisco Duque, who is running for governor of Pangasinan under the Liberal Party banner.

The President’s campaign in Pangasinan is intended to insure Duque’s election as governor and depose the opposition party’s control of the vote-rich province.

The President started his campaign after arriving in Sta. Maria town. He was joined there by Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, LP president, who denounced the alleged attempts by the opposition to drive a wedge between him and President Macapagal. Marcos said the wedge is being driven by the Nacionalistas in a bid to crack the Liberal hold in Northern Luzon.

The President and the First Lady had lunch in the residence of Mrs. Rene Lichauco. From Tayug, the President is scheduled to conduct rallies in Urdaneta, with whistle stops in Natividad, San Quintin, Umingan, and Balungao.

President Macapagal announced today in Tayug, Pangasinan, the appointment of PCAPE Chairman Jose B. Lingad as commissioner of customs and Dean Ramon T. Oben of UST as Bureau of Internal Revenue commissioner.

Oben replaces Lingad as BIR chief. Lingad will hold the post as customs chief in a concurrent capacity.

The President issued a proclamation today declaring tomorrow, September 20, as a special public holiday in the provinces of La Union, Ilocos Sur, and Ilocos Norte. Tomorrow is the bicentennial of the execution of Gabriela Silang, famous woman leader of the Ilocos Revolt.

In his proclamation the President noted “Gabriela Silang’s bravery, patriotism, and selflessness that represent the highest ideals of the Filipino people.”

The President also took steps today to hasten the development of Bataan and Corregidor into two of the foremost tourist attractions in the country.

The President issued an executive order placing additional facilities at the disposal of the commission charged with the maintenance and development of the two national shrines.

In his order which amends Executive Order No. 58, dated August 16, 1954, the President also made the commissioner of tourism and the president of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines, members of the commission.

Executive Order No. 58, issued by the late President Magsaysay, had declared Bataan and Corregidor national shrines, made them accessible as tourist attractions and scenes of popular pilgrimages, and created a commission for their development and maintenance.

**September 20**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today directed Fisheries Commissioner Arsenio N. Roldan, Jr., to look into the feasibility of purchasing creolin, a known effective chemical against snails, and its subsequent sale at cost to fishpond owners and operators of Dagupan City. The President issued the order in the course of his meeting with the people of Pangasinan and neighboring provinces in the first out-of-town “Common Man’s Day” held in Dagupan City.

A bustling crowd of 4,632 persons, who came singly or in groups, called on the Chief Executive for three solid hours beginning at 9:10 o’clock this morning at the Dagupan City High School.

Assisting the President in attending to his numerous callers were the First Lady, who also acted as interpreter for the elderly ones, former Health Secretary and now gubernatorial candidate Francisco Q. Duque, Mayor Liberate Ll. Reyna, and school teachers who took care of the issuance of calling slips.

Among the delegations were officers and members of the association of fishpond owners and operators in Pangasinan led by Felipe M. Tanopo, association president, who complained of the exorbitant cost in Pangasinan of creolin. Showing samples of the snails contained in glass jars, they requested the President to help them obtain the chemical to protect fishpond moss and algae which serve as food for milkfish or *bangus* from the destructive snails. Dagupan is noted for its milkfish.

Another presidential caller was Mrs. Virginia Banesa an indigent, who was suffering from elephantiasis or enlargement of the limb. Mrs. Macapagal, who is a physician, referred her to the local health authorities with instructions to assist her and to have her sent to Manila, if necessary.

A delegation of farmers from Alcala requested the President for a communal irrigation system in their locality for increased agricultural production, while a group of Pangasinan PTA presidents asked for release of funds for school buildings or additional classrooms.

Their requests were referred to the proper authorities for immediate action.

Pangasinan judges of the courts of first instance Guillermo Dacomos, Fidel Domingo, and Jose de la Cruz, and Brigido Estrada, Lingayen municipal judge and Pangasinan Bar Association president, showed up merely to greet the Chief Executive.

A group of cottage industrialists called on the President to petition for assistance in securing loans from the National Cottage Industries Development Authority (NACIDA). Their request was referred by the Chief Executive to NACIDA Administrator Jovito River, for appropriate action.

**September 21.**—THE President resumed his tour of Pangasinan towns today. Following the Common Man's Day reception at Dagupan yesterday, the President returned to the field and swung toward the western towns of Pangasinan, which has the second largest voting population in the country.

Accompanied by the First Lady and former Health Secretary Francisco Duque, the President left Dagupan about 9 o'clock this morning and covered eight towns, enumerating the accomplishments of the Administration in devising solutions to the problems created by the corrupt Nacionalista administration. solutions to the problems created by the corrupt Nacionalista administration.

The Chief Executive urged the people of the province to support all official candidates of the Liberal Party to insure the early implementation of the Administration's program to liberate the masses from misery and poverty.

Speaking before a huge crowd, the President promised the people that he could do more if the people would throw its support behind the Liberal Party candidates who would help him during the remaining two years of his term.

The President said that after attaining the presidency, he has no further ambition aside from helping the masses of people, particularly the poor.

"Please help me help our poor fellow countrymen," he declared.

First stops this morning were Binmaley and Lingayen. Then the Chief Executive ferried across the Agno River toward Bugallon, Labrador, Sual, and Alaminos, where his party had lunch at 3 o'clock this afternoon at the beach residence of Judge Felix de Castro in barrio Lucap. Then the President pushed on to Bani and thence to the China Sea terminal town of Bolinao.

The presidential party will return to Dagupan this evening.

The President issued a proclamation declaring September 27, this year, as a special public holiday in the province of Batangas and in Lipa City, to enable the people of Batangas and Lipa City to commemorate Miguel Malvar's birth anniversary with fitting ceremonies.

The Chief Executive in Proclamation No. 163, noted the heroic and patriotic deeds of Miguel Malvar, the last Filipino general to surrender to the Americans during the Filipino-American War.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: September 22-28, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**September 22.**—LEAVING Dagupan at 9:30 this morning, the President dropped at the Urdaneta residence of Amadito Perez, Jr. official candidate of the Liberal Party for mayor of the town.

After a brief visit to Perez residence, the President and the First Lady proceeded to Porac, Pampanga where they had lunch at the residence of Marciano Dizon, an old friend of the President. There he met a number of sugar planters to whom he outlined the mechanics of the Agricultural Land Reform Code.

President and Mrs. Macapagal also stopped for a few minutes at San Fernando, Pampanga, to condole with the family of Roman Reyes, 58, a poet-friend and classmate of the Chief Executive at the Pampanga High School.

The President returned this afternoon from a three-day barnstorming tour of Pangasinan, home province of the First Lady.

Upon his return to Malacañang at 3:55 p.m. today, the President issued a statement predicting the victory of former Health Secretary Francisco Q. Duque as provincial governor of Pangasinan,

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, returned to Manila from Dagupan City, where he stayed for three nights since he started the campaign last Thursday.

In spite of the fact that his final swing to the western Pangasinan towns took him up to the wee hours of the morning, the President and the First Lady woke up early to prepare for their return trip to Manila today.

In the evening, after a brief rest at the Palace, the President and the First Lady, heard mass at the Malacañang chapel.

**September 23.**—THIS morning President Macapagal received Vice-Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, who paid him a courtesy call.

Moorer arrived yesterday morning for a three-day goodwill visit and inspection tour in Manila.

With the U.S. Admiral in seeing the Chief Executive were Rear Admiral S. P. Monore, NAVPHIL commander; and Lt. Commander Watt W. Jordan, the Admiral's aide. They were accompanied to Malacañang by U.S. Ambassador William E. Stevenson.

The President also recieved the 12-man press goodwill mission of the Republic of China headed by Hsiao Tze-Cheng, who called on him to pay their respects. They arrived Friday and are scheduled to leave for home tomorrow afternoon. With the Chinese newsmen in calling on the President was Chinese Ambassador Tuan Mao Lan.

Earlier this morning the President administered the oath of office to Marciano Dixon as chairman of the board of directors of the Philippine Sugar Institute. Dizon succeeded Luis Lopez, who is running for the first congressional district of Batangas as official LP candidate to succeed the late Rep. Apolinario R. Apacible.

Also inducted by the Chief Executive were Dr. Alexander Gordon and Jesus Lazatin as members of the PHILSUGIN board of directors.

Present during the induction ceremonies were Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., BIR Commissioner Ramon T. Oben, and immediate members of the inductees' families.

President Macapagal today led Philippine officialdom in welcoming Japanese Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda, who arrived this afternoon on a three-day official visit here.

With the Chief Executive in meeting the Japanese Premier, his wife, and daughter, Sachiko, at the Manila International Airport were the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria.

In spite of a heavy drizzle most of the afternoon, a sizeable throng composed of top government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, and the Japanese community were present to welcome Premier and Mrs. Ikeda and their daughter.

The chartered four-jet liner of the Japanese Air Lines pulled to a stop at exactly 5 p.m., just after military honors were rendered to the President upon arrival.

Ikeda and his group were welcomed at the foot of the ramp by the First Couple, who then introduced to them Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio Villareal, and other ranking government officials.

Military honors for the visiting Japanese dignitary followed, with the President and the Premier trooping the line under umbrellas held up by two security men. After the honors the President and the First Lady introduced to the Japanese visitors the members of the diplomatic corps and the Cabinet.

Then they boarded a black convertible Cadillac and led a long motorcade to Malacañang, passing through Roxas Boulevard, Taft Avenue, Rizal Avenue, Claro M. Recto Avenue, and Mendiola. The blaring of trumpets announced their arrival at the Palace at 6:20 p.m.

**September 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred this morning with Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda of Japan on trade and commercial matters. The conference which lasted 45 minutes starting at 10:15 o'clock came on the second day of the Japanese Premier's three-day official visit here. It immediately followed a courtesy call on the President by the Prime Minister beginning at 9:55 a.m.

Also present at the meeting on the Philippine side were Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Librado D. Cayco, Chairman Sixto K. Roxas III of the National Economic Council, and Director General Armand Fabella of the Program Implementation Agency.

On the Japanese side were Deputy Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Takio Oda; Director Atsushi Uyama of the Reparations Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Counsellor Toshiro Shimanouchi of the Public Information and Cultural Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Japanese Ambassador Osamu Itagaki.

This afternoon the President received Norbert W. Schmelkes, an American guerrilla officer in the Philippines and an old friend, who came with his wife Lydia and daughters, Corine and Sylvia, to pay his respects on the Chief Executive. Now vice-president and general manager of Monarch Marking System of Mexico, Schmelkes had lived in Manila from 1931 up to the end of the war.

Schmelkes and his family arrived last September 19 for an eight-day visit with friends in Manila. During their meeting, Schmelkes expressed his personal admiration and best wishes for the continued success of the President's administration.

After his meeting with Schmelkes, the President received Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco and Rep. Vicente B. de Lara, LP official gubernatorial candidate in Misamis Oriental, who took up with him the political situation in his province.

In the evening the President and the First Lady tendered a slate dinner in Malacañang in honor of Prime Minister and Mrs. Hayato Ikeda.

Just before seating at the dinner table, the President conferred on Prime Minister Ikeda the Order of Sikatuna with the Rank of Raja in the presence of the assembled guests.

The President designated today Lorenzo Hernandez as acting chairman of the Development Bank of the Philippines. The President made the appointment following the departure of Chairman Pablo Lorenzo last Saturday for Washington, D.C., to attend an International Monetary Fund conference.

Hernandez took his oath of office before Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova at Malacañang this morning.

**September 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met twice today with Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda of Japan on problems affecting Asia, particularly those arising from the recent formation of the Federation of Malaysia.

The President met with Premier Ikeda at the President's study for over an hour starting at 8:45 a.m. Their second meeting was in the afternoon at the Palace music room shortly after the Japanese Premier had held his press conference in the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

Present at the morning meeting of the two Asian leaders were members of their respective panels.

On the Philippine side were Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado D. Cayco, Chairman Sixto K. Roxas III of the National Economic Council, Director-General Armand Fabella of the Program Implementation Agency, and Philippine ambassador to Japan Mauro Mendez.

On the Japanese side were Deputy Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Takio Oda; Director Atsushi Uyama of the Reparations Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Counsellor Toshiro Shimanouchi of the Public Information and Cultural Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Japanese Ambassador Osami Itagaki.

After his morning meeting with Ikeda the President administered the oath of office to Isosceles Pascual as acting Agriculture Undersecretary, vice Esteban Piczon who resigned to run as LP official gubernatorial candidate in Samar.

He also inducted into office former Gov. Jose B. Lingad and Ramon T. Oben as commissioners of the Bureau of Customs and the Bureau of Internal Revenue, respectively. Lingad succeeded Norborto Romualdez, Jr., who resigned to run for governor of Leyte del Sur, while Oben took over from Lingad at the BIR.

Among those present at the induction ceremonies held in the President's study were Finance Secretary Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., Justice Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, and immediate members of the inductees' families.

After the oath-taking ceremonies the President gave a luncheon in honor of William Randolph Hearst, Jr., editor-in-chief of the Hearst newspaper chain in the United States. The Hearst executive made a 36-hour stopover in Manila en route to Saigon in the course of a Far East news-gathering tour.

Also present at the luncheon were Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova; Robert Considine, Hearst columnist; and Gen. Carlos P. Romulo, president of the University of the Philippines.

In the evening the President and the First Lady attended a state dinner tendered in their honor by Premier and Mrs. Ikeda at the Philamlife building on United Nations Avenue.

**September 26.**—THIS morning the First Couple and their children, Arturo " and Gloria, had breakfast with Premier and Mrs. Ikeda and their daughter, Sachiko, at the state dining room.

They had an exchange of gifts, with the President and Mrs. Macapagal giving the Premier and his wife, among others, a fashionable coffee table, a squash set and bowl, and autographed pictures.

The President's daughter presented Sachiko with embroidered jusi cloth. In return, Premier and Mrs. Ikeda and their daughter gave the First Family numerous gifts, including a transistorized radio and a beautiful Japanese flower vase. Mrs. Ikeda also handed a check for \$1,000 to the First Lady as a donation to the Social Welfare Administration.

Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda ended a three-day-official visit here today with President Macapagal and the First Lady taking the lead in giving him a warm send-off at the Manila International Airport.

Premier and Mrs. Ikeda, accompanied by the President and the First Lady, left the Palace at 8:30 a.m. Using the new convertible Cadillac, the President and Premier Ikeda motored to the airport with a side trip to Forbes Park.

Military honors were rendered the President and the Prime Minister on arrival at the airport apron.

After the honors, Premier and Mrs. Ikeda, together with the President and the First Lady, went around the lines of members of the diplomatic corps, top government officials, and members of the Japanese community to say goodbye. They boarded their chartered Japan Air Lines jetliner at 9:30 a.m., taking off 12 minutes later.

President Macapagal left this evening for Poro Point in La Union where he will spend his 53rd birth anniversary. The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, left by car.

Before leaving Malacañang, the President motored to Makati, Rizal, where he was guest of honor at the inauguration of the Architectural Centre.

The President went to Architectural Centre after he was honored with a loyalty parade by members of the Armed Forces in Camp Murphy.

The traditional loyalty parade is given by the members of the Armed Forces every year on the occasion of the birthday of the President, in his capacity as the commander-in-chief.

In his speech the President appealed for "temporary sacrifices" and for a new attitude on the part of the opposition such as not to destroy but to propose constructive suggestions on the commission and omission of the Administration."

"Until I rose to the high councils of government," he said, "my birthday meant nothing to me and I never even marked it."

However, he said that now that he is President, "I would not mind marking my birthday as a source of inspiration, at least for me, for the cause to which I have consecrated my life."

The President also ordered the immediate release by the Budget Commission of P1.5 million earmarked for the organization of the AFP's Woman's Auxiliary Corps.

The directive was issued verbally to Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco in the course of the President's speech at the testimonial review rendered in his honor at Camp Murphy this afternoon.

The President said he is proud that his birthday has been associated with the birth of a new hope for the people.

President Macapagal has proclaimed September 28, this year, as a special public holiday in the province of Camarines Norte.

In his proclamation the President noted the outstanding heroism in the last war of the late Wenceslao G. Vinzons, a delegate to the Constitutional Convention and former governor and representative of Camarines Norte.



**September 27.**—AFTER much vacillation on when and how to come to Poro Point, President Macapagal and the First Lady finally arrived today in the Navy beach resort by car.

The President had previously planned to go there last night but changed his mind and planned to take the presidential train this morning. At eight this morning, however, he decided to go by car. He and Mrs. Macapagal arrived at 12:30 this afternoon.

The President is planning to rest and won't receive callers. Gov. Eulogio de Guzman, who arrived to greet him, was politely told that the President was asleep and was not planning to receive callers.

Even Malacañang newsmen who accompanied the President were asked to wait. Later, however, they were able to send written questions which President Macapagal answered in his own handwriting.

The President took along a pile of state papers on which he would net while resting there. He is also going over proposed appointments to fill several vacancies in key positions in the government and government owned corporations.

The President today renewed his appeal for continued sacrifice and patience toward a complete realization of the people's hopes and aspirations for progress and prosperity in a message he issued on the eve of his 53rd birth anniversary. The President also pledged to continue dedicating his thoughts and efforts and to utilize all the resources at his command in order to hasten the tide of national progress.

In voicing his appeal for continued support of his Administration, the Chief Executive said it is "far better to bear with momentary inconvenience than to suffer endlessly a lifetime of misery and hardship."

"This is the price we must pay in order to attain prosperity and well-being," he said.

**September 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today signed a P32 million "birthday gift" to 300,000 national government employees in the form of salary increases effective July 1, this year.

In announcing the grant of salary increases, the President said, "This is my birthday gift to my co-workers in the executive branch of the government."

President Macapagal made the announcement on the second salary increases as members of the Cabinet trooped to the Philippine Navy beach resort in Poro Point to felicitate him on his 53rd birthday today.

Cabinet members and their ladies sang "Happy Birthday" as the celebrant and the First Lady, appeared in the newly constructed beach resort chapel.

The graduated salary increases are provided for under an administrative order signed by the President today.

Those receiving not more than P2,544 per annum will get a five per cent increase; not more than P4,434, four per cent; and not more than P7,235, three per cent.

Even casual laborers who receive not more than P9 a day will receive five per cent salary increases, while those getting more than P9 will get four per cent raises.

These increases will affect only national government employees and those who were employed on or before July 1.

Excepted from the provisions of the administrative order are those who have been promoted and have received one-step salary increases in the WAPCO scale.

President Macapagal marked his birthday by hearing mass at 11 o'clock this morning. He was joined by the First Lady and their four children, Cielo Salgado, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.

After mass the President greeted with a kiss the First Lady and the four children. He received two gifts: one a coffee set from Cabinet members and their ladies; and the other, a caricature of the President by "Gat" of the Manila Chronicle given by the Malacañang Newsmen's Association.

In giving the salary increases, the President said, We public officials should always think in terms of giving rather than receiving—serving rather than benefiting."

Only Cabinet members and newsmen were allowed to greet him there. Senators Estanislao Fernandez and Maria Kalaw Katigbak and Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal were also allowed to felicitate the President.

The President later motored to the Bacnotan Cement Industries, Inc., to inaugurate the P2.4 million steel plant of the firm in San Fernando, La Union.

The President and the First Lady were guests of honor at the inauguration of the steel plant of the Bacnotan Cement Industries, Inc. Mrs. Macapagal cut the ceremonial ribbon while the President pushed the button which sent the plant machinery into motion, producing nails, barbed wire and corrugated galvanized iron roofing.

At the luncheon held in the plant premises, the President was presented with three birthday cakes. One of the cakes showed the President shaking hands with a farmer, while the other two carried symbols of the Administration's economic program. The symbolic gifts were presented by corporate officials headed by Ernesto Escaler, board chairman; Ramon V del Rosario, executive vice chairman; and Juan Quintos, director.

In accordance with the policy on the inauguration of industrial establishments, the President did not deliver a speech. After thanking his well-wishers, the Chief Executive returned to the Naval reservation.

He did not receive callers in the afternoon.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: September 29 - October 5, 1963

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**September 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal appealed to Malacañang newsmen at lunch today to help him by suggesting names to fill vacant government positions.

"I need aggressive men who are upright, competent and dedicated," he said.

The President made his appeal to the newsmen as he confessed he was looking for materials to fill vacancies in the government. He said he would even name Nacionalistas who are willing to serve the people. He disclosed that he would confer this week with an unidentified Nacionalista whom he had in mind for a key position.

Before meeting the newsmen who accompanied him in the Philippine Navy beach resort in Poro Point, President Macapagal received Dr. Jose O. Pelayo of Pampanga, whom he had "persuaded" to accept the position as officer in charge of the Social Welfare Administration. The Pampanga doctor was accompanied by his wife.

The President said Pelayo was at first reluctant but finally accepted the challenge of public service. The President immediately inducted Pelayo into office.

President and Mrs. Macapagal, together with their three children, heard mass in the newly constructed chapel of the Navy beach resort.

The First Lady urged newsmen to join the Macapagals in hearing mass. "The good boys will join us at mass," she said. All newsmen, including a Protestant reporter, joined the First Family in the religious rites.

After inducting Pelayo, President Macapagal and the First Lady motored back to Manila. They are expected to arrive in the city late this evening.

Earlier this morning the Chief Executive received La Union mayors accompanied by Gov. Eulogio de Guzman and Rep. Manuel Cases.

**September 30.**—THIS morning the President received U.S. Ambassador William E. Stevenson, who called to felicitate him on his birthday last Saturday.

The American envoy was not able to extend his greetings to the Chief Executive on time because the President preferred to celebrate his birthday quietly at Poro Point, San Fernando, La Union.

Following Ambassador Stevenson's call, the President received the newly-appointed Philippine ambassador to the United Nations headquarters in Geneva, Vicente Albano Pacis. He called for last-minute instructions prior to enplaning for New York tomorrow afternoon to present his credentials to UN Secretary General U Thant.

Ambassador Pacis expects to remain in New York for three weeks to attend the UN general assembly and for orientation on his assignment before assuming his post in Geneva.

The President did not receive callers in the afternoon.

This evening President Macapagal was main speaker at the city Liberal Party kick-off rally at the San Lazaro race track.

Leaving Malacañang at 7:45 p.m., the LP titular head was met with a tremendous ovation on his arrival at the hippodrome. He was fetched from the Palace by Mayor Antonio J. Villegas who heads the city slate.

President Macapagal today signed Proclamation No. 165, declaring the period from October 1 to October 7 this year as Home Industries Week.

Home Industries Week will be observed under the auspices of the National Cottage Industries Development Authority (NACIDA).

In proclaiming the Week, the President noted that the development of the country's cottage industry potential depends on increased production and patronage and on improvement of the methods of production and standards of cottage products. He stressed that there is need for more of our people to engage in cottage industries and participate in the attainment of economic self-sufficiency.

**October 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today ordered the placing of the police force of Iloilo City under Constabulary control "in the interest of peace and order."

The order was issued upon the recommendation of Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and two contending chiefs of police of Iloilo City, who both favored the placing of the city under the PC.

The Malacañang order was also based on reports from the third military area that because of the dispute over just who is the police chief of Iloilo City, police matters in the city have resulted in (1) inefficiency, (2) loose discipline, (3) laxity in the enforcement of laws, and (4) failure to preserve peace and order.

The issue between the two contending police chiefs of Iloilo City has been elevated to the courts. The two Iloilo chiefs of police are Godofredo Quimsing and Eduardo Tahanglangit.

This afternoon President Macapagal received from Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez a report on the Malaysia situation from the United Nations end. During their 15-minute talk, the President instructed Lopez to meet with congressional leaders tomorrow for consultation on the question.

Lopez arrived this afternoon from New York where he headed the Philippine delegation to the U. N. General Assembly.

Scheduled to be consulted on Malaysia are Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Senators Lorenzo Sumulong and Raul Manglapus, and Reps. Godofredo Ramos and Jovito Salonga. Sen. Sumulong is chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, while Rep. Ramos is chairman of the House foreign affairs committee.

Before meeting with Lopez, the President inducted Dr. Carmen G. Lopez and Manuel C. Cruz as chairman of the board of medical examiners and the board of directors of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, respectively.

Dr. Lopez took the place of Dr. Floro Dabu, who has been appointed Secretary of Health, while Cruz succeeded Labor Undersecretary Esmeraldo Eco, who is running for governor of Camarines Norte.

Also inducted by the Chief Executive was former Rep. Jose Puey as acting vice-governor of Negros Occidental. Puey replaced Gloria Esteban, who is running as the official LP gubernatorial candidate in the province.

Present at the induction ceremonies held at the Malacañang reception hall were the First Lady, Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, immediate members of the inductees' families, and close friends.

Following the induction rites, the Chief Executive granted an hour's interview to Andrew Cockine, *Time* correspondent.

**October 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal consulted today with congressional leaders and foreign affairs officials on Malaysia. During the conference which lasted from 12:30 to 3 p.m., Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador Lopez, who had just returned from New York as head of the Philippine delegation to the United Nations, briefed the conferees on the Malaysia situation as viewed from the UN end.

Others at the conference were Senate President Ferdinand Marcos; Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, chairman of the Senate committee on foreign relations; Rep. Godofredo Ramos of Aklan, chairman of the House committee on foreign affairs; Sen. Raul Manglapus; Rep. Jovito R. Salonga of Rizal; and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Librado D. Cayco.

This morning the President received a delegation from the Veterans Federation of the Philippines which presented him with the “Plaque of the Golden Kris.” The award was in recognition of his “extraordinary interest in veteran affairs as shown by his support of legislation for the socio-economic uplift of veterans, their widows, orphans, and parents, particularly the creation of the Philippine Veterans Bank.”

Headed by Col. Simeon Medalla, federation president, the group included former Labor Secretary Primitive Lovina and Gen. Alfonso Arellano.

Another delegation from the Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Society presented the President with a certificate of honorary chairmanship, “for his endeavors to provide and insure for all Filipinos a life of abundance and freedom.”

The group included Francisco Ortigas, Jr., Jesus Magsaysay, brother of the late President, Sen. Manuel Manahan, former Ambassador Felirio Neri, Gen. Jesus Vargas, CoJ. Salvador Villa, and Col. Frisco San Juan.

President Macapagal pledged to the veterans’ delegation that he would endeavor to do more for the cause of veterans.

He also thanked the RM Memorial Society for making him honorary chairman. He said it was a source of pride to be associated with the ideals of Magsaysay, who, he said, had been instrumental in bringing about the participation of the masses in their government.

In the afternoon the President received the members of the National Planning Commission who submitted a plan for the overall development of Intramuros. Those who called on the Chief Executive were Chairman Luis Araneta and Commissioners Alfredo Y. Dizon, Reynaldo L. Laureano, and Limneo Platon.

The President then administered the oath of office to Rodolfo Gamboa as acting member of the board of the Social Security System. Gamboa is a sugar planter from Silay City.

Present at the induction ceremony held at the President’s study were Labor Secretary and Acting SSS Administrator Bernardino Abes, Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Mesdames Celina Gamboa and Teresita Santiago, and Ramon Lacson.

In the evening the President conferred with the heads of government housing agencies on the Administration’s housing program.

**October 3.**—HAVE you seen President Macapagal dance in public? This is what people from barrio Atlag in Malolos saw this morning as the Chief Executive heaved and swayed on the road with the women, of the area in the customary way distinguished visitors are received.

Approached by middle-aged women who were dancing the *pandango*, the President joined in by heaving and swaying. Observers said that the President’s dance had a touch of the modern “twist.”

This was how the President started his three-day campaign of the vote-rich province of Bulacan, believed to a strong, Nacionalista bailiwick.

In Hagonoy the President and Liberal Party mayoralty candidate Emilio Santos rode on a *tilburin* from the latter's residence to the town plaza under the hot noonday sun.

Motoring out of Malacañang at 8 o'clock this morning, the President was met at the Rizal-Bulacan boundary by gen. Francisco Soc Rodrigo and Jose Villarama, LP gubernatorial candidate.

President Macapagal today authorized the release of P350,000 appropriated in 1961 for the completion of the Quezon Memorial and Mausoleum in Quezon City.

The President issued the authority through Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova shortly before leaving for Bulacan in the first of three sorties into the province to campaign for the Liberal Party senatorial ticket.

The Chief Executive had acted on the request of Chairman Sotero Baluyut of the Quezon Memorial Committee to complete at least the first unit of the Memorial consisting of a monument and mausoleum to which the remains of the late President Manuel L. Quezon would be transferred.

Executive Secretary Hechanova explained that the project was delayed because funds were not available and it had not been included in the 1963 program of capital expenditures.

The P350,000 release for the Quezon Memorial will be included in the ceiling for building projects for the current fiscal year and will be chargeable against the amount for public buildings in the Department of Public Works and Communications.

The construction of the Quezon Memorial and Mausoleum which is in progress and at present under contract with one Nicolas Sebastian, is expected to be finished within the next few years. Secretary Hechanova has directed the government agency in charge of completing the Quezon Memorial to take expeditious action on the project.

The President has issued a proclamation reserving 9,545 square meters of public land on Isla de Balut, Tondo, Manila, for subdivision and disposition to its present occupants, Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr. announced today.

Under the proclamation, the land shall be subdivided by the Director of Lands into convenient-sized lots, excluding such portions as may be needed for the opening of adequate streets and alleys, for the construction of drainage works and other public improvements.

The President also decreed in his proclamation that in the disposition of the subdivided lots, the Social Welfare Administration shall screen and process the applications of bona fide occupants to determine who are deserving and entitled to priority. Should the lots be insufficient for distribution among the bona fide occupants, the award shall be by lot, and those who fail to get lots will be given priority in other government resettlement projects, the President said.

**October 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal held his fifth Common Man's Day reception in Malolos, Bulacan, today. Assisted by the First Lady, Salvador Santiago, Jovencio Caluag, and some schoolteachers who handed out calling slips, the President received more than 3,000 persons from 9:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Waking up early this morning although he had returned to Malacañang about midnight from his tour of western Bulacan towns, the President again left Manila shortly after 8 a.m. to fulfill his scheduled engagement with the common man.

Arriving in Malolos about an hour later, the President and the First Lady proceeded directly to the town's elementary school and promptly started receiving callers.

The President and members of his party had lunch in the house of an old friend, Dr. Cristobal Santiago of Malolos. Then he returned to Manila, arriving in Malacañang about 2:30 p.m.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive conferred with Dr. Jose O. Pelayo, newly-appointed officer in charge of the Social Welfare Administration, who consulted him on SWA affairs.

The President also conferred with other officials, including Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Chairman Sixto K. Roxas III of the National Economic Council, and Acting Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, who is concurrently chairman of the Rice and Corn Administration.

President Macapagal has proclaimed November 15 to December 31, this year, as the period for the national fund campaign of the Girl Scouts of the Philippines in places outside Greater Manila.

In his proclamation the President called upon the citizens and residents of the country outside of Greater Manila to assist in the campaign and to give their utmost support so that the Girl Scouts of the Philippines may be assured of adequate funds with which to carry on its work.

The President issued the proclamation to effect the aims of the Girl Scout Organization to expand its arts and crafts training centers in all the regions for active participation of the youth in the economic progress of the country through the development of cottage industries to establish camping centers for the physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of young girls and to develop such qualities as resourcefulness, initiative, and self-reliance.

**October 5.**—THE President assured today that the handling of the perennial rice problem would continue to improve under the Administration's program of "more and more rice to more and more people at less and less price." He gave this assurance in speeches made during his tour of eastern Bulacan towns,

Leaving Malacañang at 8:25 a.m., the President first stopped in barrio Burol, Bigaa, at the residence of Dr. Nemesio Garcia where he proclaimed Liberal Party candidates for local posts."

Then motoring through Pandi, the President proceeded to Sta. Maria where he spoke at a public rally on the town plaza.

From Sta. Maria, the Chief Executive moved on to Norzagaray and then to Angat where he addressed other public rallies.

In his speeches the President said that he would assume full responsibility for the satisfactory solution of the rice problem "if the Liberal Party is given authority in the Senate as a result of the election of LP senatorial candidates."

The Presidential party had lunch at the Roosevelt Memorial School in Angat.

Other towns visited by the President were Bustos, San Rafael, San Ildefonso, San Miguel, and Baliuag. He was accompanied by Mrs. Judy Araneta-Roxas, Dr. Jose Villarama, and former NEC Administrator Manuel Cuenco.

The President often alighted at the entrance to the towns to acknowledge the greetings of delegations which met him with brass bands and fireworks displays. Then followed by the townspeople, he would walk all the way to the poblacion and to the plaza where he addressed the rallies.

The President is expected back in Manila about midnight.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: October 6-12, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**October 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent the day quietly to Malacañang today. Although he had returned about midnight from a grueling campaign tour of eastern Bulacan towns, the President woke up early this morning.

After a light breakfast with Mrs. Macapagal, the President returned to his private study where he spent some time reading the Sunday morning newspapers. Then he went over a pile of slate papers brought to him for action.

In the afternoon the President resumed work in his study to clear his desk of pending matters.

He heard mass at the Malacañang chapel at 6 p.m. with members of his family.

The President signed today an administrative order which supersedes one issued in 1958 on the standardization of salaries of ranking officials of the provincial and city government, pursuant to Republic Act 3719.

In his order the President said that the amendment would be effective on July 1 so as to coincide with the date when the increases in salaries of the primary officials of the local governments took effect.

The Chief Executive signed the amendment on the standardization of salaries of the provincial and city officials upon recommendation of Finance Secretary Rodrigo- D. Perez, Jr.

Affected by the standardization of salaries in the provincial and city governments are the offices of the governor, provincial board, treasurer, auditor, assessor, highway engineer, health officer, fiscal, and branch library.

**October 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal accused the Nacionalista Party senatorial candidates today of “now wanting to fool the people after their party had given the country the most graft-ridden and worst administration in its history.” The Chief Executive was on a stumping tour of the second district of Rizal.

In speeches before big crowds in San Mateo, Montalban, Antipolo, Teresa, and Tanay, the President said that the NP candidates “attack the rice importation and yet charge that there is not enough rice at low cost for the people.”

He also observed that the NP candidates “favor decontrol and yet advocate lower prices which have become impracticable since the NP started decontrol in 1960.”

“Authority goes with responsibility,” the President declared. “If responsibility is to be expected of the Liberal administration, the LP must have authority, in the Senate, and this is possible only through the election of the LP senatorial candidates.”

Amplifying on his statement that with an LP-controlled Senate he could assume full responsibility for a satisfactory solution of the rice problem, the President said that legislative measures have to be passed to back up an effective rice program.

This has been impossible, the President explained, because the NP-numerically controlled Senate either blocked the needed measures or insisted on provisions that rendered ineffective the intended measures.

The President leaving Malacañang at 8:30 o'clock this morning, was met by former Secretary Benjamin Gozon of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Rep. Jovito R. Salonga of Rizal at the Quezon-Rizal boundary, and they proceeded to San Mateo.



From Tanay the President, was to cover the towns of Pililla, Jala-Jala, Antipolo, Teresa, and Tanay. In every town the President was wildly cheered upon arrival, and hailed with fireworks and brass band music,

The party arrived in Tanay at 1:15 p.m., and the President proceeded to the plaza to speak to the townspeople who had been waiting for him.

After the rally, lunch was served at the residence of Mrs. Paz Sumulong-Tanjuatco, candidate for board member of Rizal.

From Tanay the President was to cover the towns of Pililla, Jala-jala, Baras, Morong, Cardona, Binangonan, Angono, Taytay, Cainta, Pasig, and Marikina.

The Chief Executive was expected back at Malacañang about midnight tonight.

**October 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal said today that the bankruptcy of the cause is so serious in the Nacionalista Party that “they have even sought leadership from the Liberal Party ranks.”

In speeches at Pateros, Taguig, and Mandaluyong on the second day of stumping in Rizal, the President declared that the approach of election day shows more and more the NP’s dire want of real issues, as “they drift from one superficial and temporary issue to another.”

The President explained that at first the NP’s criticized the Administration for the high cost of rice. When the Rice and Corn Administration sold rice at P0.80 per ganta, he said, the NP criticized the *pila*; and then when the pila was done away with, they criticized the *lista*.

The President said the NP’s even raised an issue of on alleged “loyalty check” at the Department of Foreign Affairs, which “did not exist at all.”

The Nacionalistas are “fault-finders who are good at criticizing but who fail miserably in offering a constructive program of government for the salvation of the people,” the President declared. He was not surprised, he added, as it was the past NP administration which caused the grave moral and economic problems of the country which the Liberal administration is succeeding to solve.

The President left Malacañang at 9:45 a.m. and was joined by former Agriculture Secretary Benjamin Gozon, Rep. Jovito Salonga, and Rep. Rufino Antonio upon arrival in Pateros.

From Pateros the President’s party motored to Taguig and then to Mandaluyong by way of Pasig. In the towns in his itinerary, the President was hailed by jubilant residents as “the first President to visit” their place. Fireworks, as well as brass band and the cheers of townsfolk, usually greeted the Chief Executive.

After lunch and a brief rest at the residence of Mandaluyong Mayor Amado Reyes, the President and his party proceeded to Muntinglupa. Other towns covered by the President’s tour were Las Piñas, Paranaque, Makati, and San Juan.

The President was scheduled to be back at Malacañang by midnight.

President Macapagal has proclaimed October 19 this year, as Credit Union Day.

In proclaiming the day the President urged the people to give fitting recognition to the many benefits brought to them by credit unions. He noted that credit unions not only promote the economic security of their members, but also strengthen democracy and encourage individual responsibility and the practice of true brotherhood and thus benefit our country.

**October 9.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent the day quietly at Malacañang today following his grueling two-day barnstorming tour of Rizal province. He spent most of the day in his private study working on pending state papers.

However, he received Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, who consulted him on various matters.

In the afternoon the President received Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado D. Cayco with whom he conferred briefly. Then he had a brief conference with Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes.

The President today designated Director General Armand Fabella of the Program Implementation Agency as acting secretary of commerce and industry in a concurrent capacity.

Fabella will take the place of Commerce and Industry Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda, who is on a mission abroad.

President Macapagal said today that the passing away of Msgr. Salvatore Siino “leaves a void in the hearts of all who have known his firm yet gentle influence both as a Catholic prelate and as a diplomatic representative.”

In a message sent to Pope Paul VI, the President conveyed the condolences of the Filipino people who, he said, shares in the prayers for the eternal repose of the prelate’s soul.

The Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines succumbed to a heart attack yesterday in Rome, where he was attending the second session of the Vatican ecumenical council.

**October 10**—THE President was guest of honor and speaker today at the 45th Loyalty Day celebration of the College of Agriculture in Los Baños, Laguna.

In his address before the faculty members and student population, the President urged them to make their knowledge of agricultural science work for the common man.

The President, together with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, at Malacañang at 8 o’clock this morning, arriving at the college campus an hour and 15 minutes later. They were met by the college officials headed by General Carlo P. Romulo and Dean Dioscoro Umali. Military honors, including a 21-gun salute, were rendered the President by a battalion of the college ROTC cadets,

After the military honors, the President proceeded to the Baker Hall from where he viewed a loyalty parade participated in by alumni and symbolic float on the celebration’s theme of “the Farmer as a Key to National Progress.” The Parade was followed by the President’s address.

Before delivering his speech, the Chief Executive presented awards to distinguished alumni and honorary members. The awardees were Dominador Clemente and Prince M. C. Chakrubandhu, as distinguished alumni, and Carlos Locsin, Col. Jacinto Gavino, and Col. Andres Soriano, as honorary members.

After the program the President proceeded to the nearby Makiling school grounds where he and the First Lady had lunch. They rested briefly afterwards and then motored back to Manila, arriving at the Palace at 2 o’clock in the afternoon.

The President spent the rest of the day going over pending state papers.

President Macapagal ordered today the speedy construction of the Cagayan Valley railroad extension as he authorized the release of an additional P2 million for the project.

The release of the fund was in response to representations of Govs. Eduardo L. Locsin and Melanio T. Singson of Nueva Ecija and Isabela, respectively, and of Congressmen Tito Dupaya and Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan that the railway project be given priority because it is vital to the socio-economic development of the Cagayan Valley.

The project, when finished, will reach up to Tuguegarao, Cagayan, in the north. Having a total length of 310 kilometers, the new railroad track will traverse at least 12 important towns in the provinces of Nueva Ecija, Nueva Vizcaya, Isabela, and Cagayan.

**October 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent most of the day today working on state papers aboard the Philippine Navy *RPS Cavite* anchored in Manila Bay.

The President boarded the PN ship shortly before 10 o'clock this morning in order to have a quiet day following the advice of Dr. Jesus Eusebio that he refrain from speaking engagements and appointments for one week because of laryngitis.

The President was back at the Palace at 4 o'clock in the afternoon after staying aboard the Navy vessel for six hours.

**October 12.**—THE President had another quiet day today most of the time going over state papers.

He relaxed the rest of the rest of the day, seeing a movie in the afternoon and undergoing dental treatment.

The President did not receive callers all day.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: October 13-19, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**October 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal stayed in Malacañang the whole day for the third time in a row. He spent most of the day in his private study working on pending state papers. He had been advised by his physician to rest for a week because of laryngitis.

Waking up early this morning, the President had breakfast with Mrs. Macapagal. Then he spent some time going over the Sunday morning papers.

About 11 a.m. the President heard mass at the Malacañang chapel with members-of his family.

In the afternoon, after a brief rest, the Chief Executive again, repaired to his study and resumed, work on a pile of papers.

**October 14.**—THIS morning the President practised six rounds of golf with Sen. Estanislao Fernandez at the Malacañang Park greens.

Dressed in moss-green Orlon T-shirt and brown pants to match, the Chief Executive played with the Senator from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

President Macapagal honored at luncheon today eight American congressmen who arrived this morning in the course of a fact-finding tour of Southeast Asia.

Headed by Rep. Clement J. Zablocki, a member of the House Foreign affairs committee, the group was composed of Reps Peter Frelinghuysen, Jr., Vermont W. Thompson, William S. Broomfield, Ronald B. Cameron, Harris B. McDowell, J. Irving Whalley, and William T. Murphy.

Also present at the luncheon held at the Malacañang porch off the ceremonial hall were Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado B. Cayeo, Ambassador "William E. Stevenson, Defense, Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Senator Raul S. Manglapus, Rep. Godofredo Ramos, chairman of the House foreign affairs committee, Mutuc, and U.P. President Carlos P. Romulo.

The President spent the afternoon in his private study going over state papers.

The president signed today an administrative order requiring all executive departments, bureaus, and offices to render full assistance to government agencies implementing the Agricultural Land Reform Code.

The order, issued by Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova by authority of the President," gives full support to the efforts of NEC Chairman Sixto K. Roxas III, who is coordinating the implementation of the Code as officer in charge of the Land Authority.

In the administrative order the Executive Secretary stressed that the reforms contemplated by the Agricultural Land Reform Code are important and extensive, adding, "such complement and resources may be made available from other executive agencies of the government without unduly impairing the public service."

**October 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, abiding by the advise of his doctor to retrain from accepting speaking engagements and receiving callers, kept to his private study most of the time today and worked on state papers.

Starting the day by going over the morning newspapers, to President repaired to his study after breakfast and received Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

Among the matters attended to by the Chief Executive were the appointments of:

- (1) Col. Abenir Bornales as acting chief of police of Quezon City, vice Lt. Col. Tomas Karingal who has been recalled by the Constabulary;
- (2) Cal Jorge Sanchez as acting chief of police of Pasay City, vice Colonel Bornales; and
- (3) Lt. Col. Benjamin G. Tolentino as director of the newly-created Presidential Security Agency.

The President has signed the appointment of Ambassador Juan M. Arreglado as the Philippines' new envoy to the United Arab Republic, it was announced by Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., today.

The President signed Ambassador Arreglado's credentials last Monday, October 7, two days after the Philippine Government received the United Arab Republic's *agreement* to his appointment. Arreglado succeeds Ambassador Victorio Carpio, who retires today, October 15. Paruñgao said Ambassador Arreglado is scheduled to leave for Cairo on November 4, 1963.

**October 16.**—THIS morning the President tried anew his golf clubs, gifts of Malayan Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman. He played six rounds of golf with Sen. Estanislao Fernandez.

This afternoon the President received Prince Norodom Monissara, charge d'affairs ad interim of Cambodia, who paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive.

With the Cambodian charge d'affairs were Thon Bun Sai and Pieh Sihanouk, attache and assistant attache, respectively, of the Cambodian embassy in Manila.

Prime Monissara presented the President with a silver urn as a belated birthday gift.

In the evening the President went over the draft of his speech he will deliver in radio-television chat this evening. It was learned that the President was making his own assessment of the political situation.

President Macapagal also conferred with Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Finance Secretary Rodrigo G. Perez, Jr., Custom Commissioner Jose B. Lingad, Internal Revenue Commissioner Ramon T. Oben, Justice Undersecretary Manuel Concordia, in his capacity as acting director of National Bureau of Investigation, and Conrado Cajator, chairman of the President's Anti-Graft Committee.

The President devoted most of the day to clearing his desk of pending state papers.

He did not receive callers in the morning.

**October 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spoke on the issue of rice in his 14th radio-TV chat which was telecast by remote control from Malacañang at 7 o'clock tonight.

Entitled *Rice for the People*, the speech was carried "live" by Channels 5, 7, 11, and 13. It was videotaped by Channels 3 and 9 and retelecast at 10 p.m.

It was also broadcast by the metropolitan radio stations and provincial stations of the ABS-CBN network.

The President spent most of the day in his private study clearing his desk of pending matters preparatory to departure for a three-day stump of Batangas towns.

He is scheduled to hold his sixth out-of-town Common Man's Day reception in Batangas, Batangas, tomorrow morning and then tour the whole province until Sunday.

The President spent most of his time today working on the speech which he delivered to the nation in the evening.

**October 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal held his sixth out-of-town Common Man's Day reception in Batangas, Batangas, today. Assisted by Sen. Maria Kalaw Katigbak, Bienvenido Medrano, and other local leaders, the President received a total of 6,475 persons from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Mist of his callers came in large delegations seeking assistance for their respective localities.

The President left Malacañang at 7:40 am. He was met at the Laguna-Batangas boundary by provincial and municipal officials who escorted him of the rest of the way to the Batangas capital

After bearing a *te deum* sung in his honor at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Batangas, the President proceeded to the provincial high school where he promptly started receiving callers.

About noon the President took time but to administer the oath of affiliation to the Liberal Party of Nacionalista Vice-Mayor Isidoro Masangkay and Councilors Agustin Umali and TeoMo Castillo, all of Mabini.

The President had lunch at the Batangas residence of Dr. Godofredo Rosales.

After a brief rest the Chief Executive addressed public rallies in Cuenca and Bauan and then returned to Batangas, where he spoke before another rally. The President topped off his tour of Batangas today with a huge public rally in Lipa City late in the evening.

The Chief Executive spent the night at the Lipa residence of former Rep. Artemio Lobrin.

He is scheduled to resume his stump of the province tomorrow.

**October 19.**—THE President said today in Balayan and surrounding towns of Batangas that Luis Lopez would be the best representative in Congress of the first district of the province.

Lopez is the official LP candidate in the special election in this district to fill the seat vacated by the late Rep. Apolinario R. Apacible.

The President arrived in Balayan about 11 o'clock this morning from Lipa City, where he spirit the night. After the public rally at the town plaza, the President had lunch at the residence of Luis Lopez.

The President rested until 2; 30 o'clock and then proceeded to the western town of Nasugbu. From Nasugbu the President made whistle-stops at Tuy and Calaca and then spoke at an evening rally in Lemery.

The Presidential party had dinner at the residence of Roman Ilustre in Lemery, then proceeded to Ibaan and spent the night at the residence of Ben Medrano, LP candidate for governor of Batangas.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippiines**

## President's Week in Review: October 20-26, 1963

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**October 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal ended his three-day barnstorming tour of Batangas today with an appeal to the people of the province to give him a Liberal control of the Senate in the November elections. He said his plea doubtlessly would have found support from Dr. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., under the principles of political science, if, he were alive today.

The President unreeled his third day of campaigning for the LP senatorial candidates in Batangas today by addressing an unscheduled, rally in Rosario town late this morning. A big turnout of welcomers urged the Chief Executive to address the crowd.

From Rosario the President proceeded to San Juan, where he had lunch at the residence of Mrs. Soledad Hernandez, after which he addressed another rally. He then proceeded to Tanauan with a whistlestop in Malvar.

In Tanauan the President heard Sunday mass at the town's Catholic church.

He addressed another rally at the town plaza after having merienda at the house of Mayor Pedro Gonzales. The final rally was held in Lipa City, where he spoke before a big crowd early in the evening.

After dinner at the residence of Sen. Maria Kalaw-Katigbak in Lipa City, the Chief Executive motored back to Manila.

**October 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had a quiet day today after returning early this morning from a three-day campaign tour of Batangas province. He spent the whole morning resting.

In the afternoon the President had a tape-recording of his daily 15-minute radio chat entitled *Pakinggan ang Pangulong Macapagal*, which he started yesterday. Aired over all major radio stations in the country, the series of radio talks will be made by the Chief Executive daily up to the eve of the elections.

Later the President worked on state papers in his private study. The President this day signed a proclamation declaring October 23, this year as a special public holiday in the municipality of Badoc, Ilocos Norte. The Chief Executive issued the proclamation to give the people of Badoc an opportunity to Celebrate with fitting ceremonies the 106th birthday anniversary of Juan Luna, a patriot and the first internationally-renowned Filipino painter.

**October 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Mauban, Quezon, at 2 p.m. today almost three hours behind schedule. He stopped there for lunch on the first day of a two-day stump of Quezon.

His stump of Quezon towns began inauspiciously as a continuous drizzle dogged his political drive to strengthen the bid of local Liberal Party candidates headed by Gov. Claro Robles.

President Macapagal's No. 1 car bogged down along a rough road, in that place. Mechanics said the presidential Impala car busted its coil spring.

The President had to transfer to a new Ford Galaxie which was being, used for presidential security men.

The President left Malacañang at eight o'clock this morning. Upon passing through the Laguna-Quezon boundary, he met with Liberal Party leaders led by Gov. Robles and Rep. Felix Caliwara.

President Macapagal fixed the opening salvo in Tiaong, invoking the late Senator Claro M. Recto's dream of federating the states of Malaya, Indonesia, and the Philippines. He said that Maphilindo was a fulfillment of Recto's dream.

From Tiaong the President proceeded to Candelaria, Sariaya, and Mau-ban. He had lunch at the residence of Mayor Amado Clemente. He was scheduled to stay overnight in Lucena City.

**October 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal said today he was "gratified" that a majority of the Supreme Court has upheld the view that it would be against the interest of the country and of the people to stop the rice importations which had been contracted for in good faith.

The President, at the same time, voiced regret over the Supreme Court ruling on the legality of the importations, saying it poses a problem to the Administration's resolve to keep the common people from hunger in the next lean period of from July to September, next year.

But he said, "We shall endeavor to meet the problem within the context of the Supreme Court ruling because we consider it our duty to keep our people, from going hungry within the purview of our laws."

The President was scheduled to wind up his two-day stump of the different towns of Quezon province in an effort to strengthen the bid of Liberal Party candidates in the area.

He started the day in Lucena City where he stayed for the night and, upon waking up, read the Manila newspapers which brought the bad news of the adverse decision of the Supreme Court in connection with the controversial rice importation.

He called for Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., and discussed the issuing of a statement in connection with the high tribunal's decision. He said he was not in favor of seeking a reconsideration of the adverse decision of the high court.

**October 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal said in Guinayangan, Quezon, today that the opposition and their supporters are "irresponsible rumor and gossip-mongers" who do not bother to verify wild rumors before dignifying them as charges against the Administration.

"An opposition that cannot stand on nothing but unsubstantiated rumors and gossips has become an impotent opposition that does not deserve public the President audience," the President declared.

In speeches in the course of his tour of Quezon province, he said that unless the habit of passing gossip and rumors as news and of making charges is stopped, democracy is in peril of being weakened and subverted.

"The Administration welcomes valid and substantiated criticism but condemns the use of gossips and rumors as destructive of democratic institutions which thrive on truth and not on gossip and lies," the President added.

President Macapagal, who returned early this morning from a three-day stump of Quezon province, left again ,at 9 this evening for the Bicol region aboard a special presidential train.

The Chief Executive boarded the presidential train at Sta. Mesa station "en route to Naga City, where he will hold the "Common Man's Day" tomorrow at the Ateneo de Naga.

The President returned at 8:30 this morning on board a special train from Guinayangan, Quezon.

He embarked at the junction of the superhighway on Epifanio de los Santos Avenue.



Upon his return to Malacañang, the President had breakfast with Mrs. Macapagal and then rested the whole morning.

This afternoon the President taped his daily radio chat entitled *Pakinggan* and ating Pangulong *Macapagal*.

After taping his radio chats, the President rested in his bedroom.

President Macapagal today expressed belief that the government's new land reform program will be a deciding-factor on whether the country "will rise to the heights of prosperity in the future or whether we shall forever be burdened by the deadening weight of agricultural stagnation."

In a brief address at the closing ceremony of the first supervisory seminar on management for land reform, read by acting Agricultural Secretary Jose Feliciano, the President, at the same time, warned personnel of the land reform agencies not to engage in petty bickering or divisive personal conflicts that could spell failure for the program.

He said the program, which is embodied in the Agricultural Land Reform Code, is much more ambitious and comprehensive than other past plans and therefore requires a harmonious mobilization of manpower to insure its success.

Its objectives, he added, cut deeply into the established social institutions and its underlying philosophy calls for fundamental changes in the country's agricultural society "and the resources it needs to carry out its aims are necessarily massive."

**October 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Naga City at 8 o'clock this morning after: an uneventful trip from Manila aboard the presidential tram.

He was accompanied by Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Press Secretary Leoncio Paruñgao, Jr., Manila Railroad Manager Pedro de Peralta, some MRR directors, and Malacañang newsmen. MRR Chairman Paulino Cases was consequently absent from the group.

Upon arrival in Naga, the President was met by a crowd headed by Gov. Apolonio Maleniza of Camarines Sur and Mrs. Milagros Abella, presidential assistant on community development.

The President went straight to the Cathedral for a *Te Deum* and a visit with Archbishop Pedro Santos. Then he repaired to the Ateneo de Naga gymnasium, where he received 3,778 callers on his weekly "Common Man's Day."

Among those who sought audience with the President was a delegation of the Naga City Barrio Lieutenants League headed by its President, Ramon S. Tolaram, and its vice-president, Felix T. Bio, Sr., who requested the release of funds for the improvement of Naga City.

President Macapagal also authorized a loan of P200 each to 25 applicants from the National Cottage Industries Authority.

Galo Meliton, NACIDA director, issued the loans with centavo coins in connection with the Administration's "Respect the Centavo" drive.

In the afternoon the President laid the cornerstone for the new Veterans Bank branch in Naga City and started his campaign by touring the nearby towns of Camaligan, Canaman, Magargo, Bombon, and Calabanga.

**October 26.**—THE President woke up early this morning after a late rally last night in Naga City where he proclaimed Ramon San Andres, LP senatorial bet Tecla San Andres Ziga's brother, as the LP mayoralty candidate in Naga. This proclamation in the rally touched off dissensions and a pocket-sized rebellion with the LP camp in Naga.

Leading the rebellion is Ramon Felipe, another LP candidate in Naga who is being backed by GSIS General Manager Ramon Diaz, and PACD Chairman Milagros Abella.

Felipe said he was ignoring the President's appeal that he withdraw from the race and spurned the Chief Executive's offer to accept a government position.

The President had breakfast at the residence of Camarines Sur Gov. Apolonio Maleniza before starting the second day of campaign in Camarines Sur. The President later stumped in the towns of Pili, Ocampo, Tiagon, Lagonoy, and San Jose.

After lunch in Goa, the President will proceed to Baa, Iriga, Nabua, and Bato, also to campaign.

The President is scheduled to pass the night at the residence of Health Secretary Floro Dabu in Goa, who is accompanying the Chief Executive in the stumping tour. Their two other companions are Gov. Maleniza and Manuel Leelin, a Manila businessman.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: October 27 - November 2, 1963

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**October 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal wound up today his three-day campaign tour of Camarines Sur confident that the Liberal Party candidates would sweep the polls in that province in November.

The President believes that the proclaimed candidates in Naga City Ramon San Andres, will make it easily despite the split in the city Liberal ranks.

Receptions accorded the Chief Executive in the towns he visited were heartening. People turned out en masse and braved the noonday sun and heavy drizzle to hear him explain his policies and dig at the opposition for advocating dictatorship by a minority-controlled Senate just to see the Administration fail and thereby pave the way for their return to power.

In Iriga the crowd that met the President stood in rapt attention as he, railed at the Nacionalistas, rivalled the size of the Plaza Miranda crowd and was considered by local observers as "larger" than the crowd that met President Magsaysay when the late President visited the town.

In speeches in Libmanan town and in the western towns of Milaor, Minalabac, San Fernando, Pasacao, and Pamplona earlier today, the President exhorted the people to vote Liberal "to vote logical continuity to their expressed will in 1961 to entrust to the LP in Malacañang and in the Senate the responsibility for the conduct of the nation's affairs. He said that if the Nacionalistas are now in power in the Senate, it was due to the result of the previous senatorial elections and not to the Nacionalista electoral plurality.

For the greater part of the day today, the Chief Executive motored through rough roads in sorties to the province's western towns.

Before embarking on the final day of the campaign in Libmanan, the President heard mass and received holy communion at the Archbishop's Palace in Naga City. He arrived there by train from Pamplona.

Before addressing a big crowd in Libmanan, the President had lunch at the residence of mayoralty bet Alfonso Ortiz. From there, the President will entrain northward to Sipocot, Lupi Viejo, Ragay, and Del Gallego for the remaining political rallies in Camarines Sur before entraining for Manila.

He is expected back in Manila tomorrow morning.

**October 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned this morning from a hectic four-day campaign tour of Camarines Sur.

The Chief Executive held his weekly "Common Man's Day" last Friday in Naga City, then toured Camarines Sur towns until last night.

Arriving at Malacañang at 6:50 o'clock this morning the President closeted himself for a day's rest from the rigors of the campaign. He received no callers.

Late in the afternoon the President made a tape recording of his nightly talk to the nation entitled, *Pakinggan ang Pangulong Macapagal*.

President Macapagal today, Monday, October 28, called for a united front against hunger, poverty, and disease to save world peace and avert human annihilation by nuclear war.

Addressing the 13th Annual Pacific Air Forces Medical Conference in Baguio City, the President said universal peace could be insured if all nations would band themselves as one to fight these “maladies plaguing the earth.”

The President’s address was read for him by Health Secretary Floro Dabu.

In making the appeal, President Macapagal pointed out:

“The continuing exchange of medical knowledge between countries will surely strengthen man’s position against the sources of disease and will help to divert his energy from activities leading to his destruction to useful and humanitarian endeavors.

“Thus, with such a united front against the maladies plaguing the earth, world peace will be insured and scientific advances in all fields, instead of being bandied around as evidences of a nation’s might and invincibility—an attitude not becoming of any country that purports to desire only the general welfare of mankind—will be utilized to lift the humblest man from the throes of disease, poverty, and illiteracy.”

**October 29.**—THIS morning the President and the First Lady, together with. Mrs. Ireena Vda. de Macaraeg, heard mass at the Pinaglabanan Church in San. Juan, Rizal, in memory of the 20th death anniversary of Juan G. Macaraeg the President’s father-in-law.

Before the mass Mrs. Macaraeg laid a floral offering at the crypt of her husband at the basement of the church.

Returning to Malacañang shortly before 9 a.m., the President spent the rest of the morning working on pending papers. He also went over his itinerary prepared by assistants for his tour of Laguna.

The President is scheduled to visit 18 towns of that province the whole day tomorrow.

President Macapagal accepted the credentials of Ambassador Ahmad Mohammed. Abu-Zeid of the United Arab Republic in a presentation ceremony at Malacañang this afternoon. Present at the ceremony were members of the Cabinet headed by Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado D. Cayco and ranking officials of the UAR embassy in Manila.

Ambassador Abu-Zeid succeeded Ambassador Hussein El Ahmady El Zawahry, who had been recalled by his home government after completing his tour of duty in the Philippines.

Following the presentation of credentials ceremony the President received in his study the members of his Cabinet whom he had not met together for some time.

The President also received a traveling team of US teenager who are touring Australia and Asian countries. Chaperoned by Hames Groen, the group known as the Teen Team” is composed of Keith Knoff, Paul Walberg, Bradford Hess, Grace Danielson, and Trudy Stevenson.

In the evening the President tape-recorded his nightly talk to the nation on *Pakinggan ang Pangulong Macapagal*.

**October 30.**—THE President motored out of Malacañang at 8 o’clock this morning and passed through Pasig, Rizal Laguna.

He travelled over rough roads and campaigned from town to town, as a result of which his schedule got so upset that he arrived in Pagsanjan for lunch four hours behind schedule.

In his talk with newsmen the President said he decided to go to Laguna in an effort to boost the stocks of the Liberal senatorial candidates who are not faring well there.

President Macapagal arrived in Pagsanjan shortly after 4 o'clock this afternoon, apparently hungry and tired after a hectic campaign schedule of 18 towns of the province.

He was accompanied by Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Gov. Felicisimo San Luis, and Press Secretary Leoncio R. Parugao, Jr.

The President warned the people of Laguna against believing the hate-Macapagal campaign being waged by the opposition in their "desperate bid to return to power.

In public rallies at Sta. Maria, Mabilac, Famy, Siniloan, Pangil, Paete, Longs, Lumban and Pagsanjan, the President said that opposition leaders have resorted to their obsolete tactics of fomenting hate against the Administration. The President recalled that the Nacionalistas had succeeded in their hate-Quirino movement in 1953.

He expressed confidence, however, that even with their campaign among the masses to hate Macapagal, the Nacionalistas would still lose in the coming polls because the nation has pinned its hopes on the Macapagal program of government.

The first major rally of the Laguna tour was held in Pagsanjan. Then the President proceeded to Cavinti, Luisiana, Magdalena, Majayjay, Lilio, and Nagcarlan, winding up at Sta. Cruz, the provincial capital.

**October 31**—ALTHOUGH scheduled to return late last night the President returned to Malacañang at 5:30 o'clock, this morning from a grueling stumping tour of 18 towns of Laguna.

His last-stop was at Sta. Cruz, capital of southern Luzon province.

The President rested upon his arrival at Malacañang. It was a hectic political sortie, which he made to boost the political sticks of the Liberal Party Senatorial candidates in the province.

In the afternoon the President received Admiral U.S. Grant-Sharp, recently named commander-in-chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, who called at Malacañang to pay his respects.

He was accompanied by Ambassador William E. Stevenson and Rear Admiral Jack P. Monroe, commander of the US Navy Forces to the Philippines.

Admiral Sharp presented the President with a book, 1962-1963 Naval Review which was published by the US Naval Institute.

The four-star admiral, who assumed command of the Pacific Fleet as of September 30, is currently on a familiarization tour of his new command.

He is scheduled to leave the Philippines on November 4 for South Vietnam.

The President also received Ambassador Guenther Schlegelberger of West Germany, who called to say goodbye. The German envoy told the President he was returning to his home country for a medical check-up.

**November 1**.—PRESIDENT Macapagal this morning heard Mass with members of his family at the Malacañang Chapel. Aside from being All Saints Day and the first Friday of the month, it is also the birthday of the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal.

Following the mass, the President and his children took turns felicitating the First Lady on her natal day.

The Chief Executive spent most of his time today in his private study working on pending papers.

He ordered the suspension of all the members of a team allegedly of the PCAPE which reportedly was soliciting cash contributions from Chinese businessmen in Cebu City for election campaign purposes. The order was transmitted by Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio to PCAPE Chairman Jose B. Lingad this afternoon.

The President was scheduled to motor to Lubao at 3 p.m. today, However, owing to pressure of work, he decided to postpone his yearly pilgrimage to his hometown on All Saints Day.

**November 2.**—THIS morning President Macapagal motored to his home town of Lubao to pay homage at the tomb of his parents.

The President, together with the First Lady and their daughter Gloria, left Malacañang at 8:25 o'clock this morning for the traditional All Souls Day pilgrimage. He was originally scheduled to visit the tomb of his parents yesterday but put it off until today.

Upon his arrival in Lubao, the President proceeded to the Catholic cemetery and laid flowers at the niche of his parents, Urbano Macapagal and Romana Pañgan who died January 20, 1946, and May 3, 1941, respectively.

The remains of the President's brother, Israel Macapagal, and an uncle, Rufino Macapagal, were also buried in the same tomb.

At a separate niche the President offered some moments of prayer for his paternal grandmother, Escolastica Romero.

From the cemetery the President visited with some old friends at barrio Sta. Cruz. He spent time at the drugstore of Mrs. Esperanza Toñgol, to renew acquaintance.

From Sta. Cruz, the President motored to the residents of Salvador Dimson, mayoralty candidate of the Liberal Party in Lubao, where he had a brief rest and a snack. They then motored back to Manila, arriving in Malacañang at 12:25 p.m.

In the afternoon the President worked on pending papers preparatory to his departure for a two-day visit to Pangasinan tomorrow.

He has been taping his-radio chats because of his scheduled departure for Pangasinan, where he will campaign for two additional days to whip up further support for former Secretary of Health Francisco Duque, who is running for governor of the province.

In the evening the President waited for Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Louez, who was scheduled to report to Malacañang upon his arrival in Manila from the United Nations in New York and other capitals in Asia.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: November 3-9, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**November 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal resumed his stump of the vote-heavy Province of Pangasinan with huge public rallies in Bayombong early this evening and in seven other central Pangasinan towns earlier today.

In his speech the President accused the opposition of terrorist acts and warned that he would not tolerate such acts from any party in the coming elections.

The President opened his second barnstorming tour of the province with an unscheduled rally in Rosales shortly before noon. Big turn-outs in Villasis, Asingan, Sto. Tomas, Alcala, and Bautista also compelled the Chief-Executive to hold unscheduled public rallies in these municipalities.

In Binalonan, the hometown of Mrs. Macapagal, the President and the First Lady officiated at a cornerstone laying for a proposed P150,000-municipal hall. They were assisted by former Health Secretary and Mrs. Francisco Q. Duque and Rep. and Mrs. Amadeo Perez.

From Binalonan the President proceeded to Malasiqui, Urbiztondo, and finally San Carlos where he had dinner at the house of Mayor Luis Cayabyab.

The Chief Executive is scheduled to continue his campaign tour other central and northern towns tomorrow with a final rally in Dagupan City in the evening.

**November 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal stirred the hearts of the Pangasinenses today when he invoked the memory of the late Speaker Eugenio Perez, a postwar national figure from this province who, the President said, had helped him much in his political career.

"If only for the memory of a man who helped much in my political upbringing, I could not forsake the welfare of Pangasinan," the President said in public rallies held in a number of Pangasinan towns this morning.

The President urged the people to vote straight Liberal to ensure the success of his administration in its fight to free the common people from the "greedy clutches" of his powerful opponents who, he said, are supported by the vested interests.

President and Mrs. Macapagal were heartily received in all the towns they visited. People in the towns and barrios, young and old, lined the presidential route, waited far into the night, and cheered the President and the First Lady as their motorcade passed by.

Accompanied by former Health Secretary Francisco Q. Duque and Rep. Amadeo Perez, the First Couple toured the towns of Rosales, Villasis, Asingan, Binalonan, Sto. Tomas, Alcala, Bautista, Bayambang, Malasiqui, San Carlos, and Urbiztondo yesterday.

This morning they visited Mañgaldan, San Fabian, San Jacinto, and then Manaoag, where they had lunch at the residence of Mrs. Consuelo S. Perez. Because of numerous prolonged stops not included in the itinerary, the President's schedule was delayed by more than five hours.

They reached Dagupan City past 2 o'clock this morning where they rested at the residence of Dr. Pedro Baliñgit.

From Manaoag, the President was scheduled to proceed to Pozorrubio. Sta. Barbara, and Calasiao. He will close his Pangasinan campaign with a grand rally in Dagupan City this evening.

The President said today that one of the major reform objectives of his administration is to bring about clean elections in this country. In speeches at public rallies in Pangasinan towns, the President noted that in his home province of Pampanga, upon his assumption of leadership of the Liberal Party in 1953 in that province, elections were riddled of frauds except for some Huk terrorism in the district of Rep. Emilio Cortez.

The President expressed hope that the next Congress would act on the electoral reform bill recommended for enactment in this year's session. At the same time, he urged the country to depend less and less on the military forces to protect the sanctity of the ballot.

As far as practicable, he said, the best set-up is for the Commission on Elections to assume responsibility for the conduct of clean and free elections with the full cooperation of all officials and agencies of the government, including the President and the Armed Forces. This way, he said, the country will develop an attitude that would regard the protection of the polls as a civilian rather than a military responsibility, which would be conducive to a healthier and stronger democracy.

The President emphasized that as far as he is concerned, he is supporting clean and free elections to the hilt and is prepared to take drastic action against any official who would involve himself in the commission of frauds and terrorism.

The Chief Executive disagreed with the taking of a presidential posture guaranteeing free and clean polls because that implies that the achievement of free and clean elections depended on the President, who, as titular head of a political party, is a participant in the polls.

He said that the proper scope of responsibility of the President is to give full support to the Comelec and to insure the maintenance of peace and order through the Constabulary and other law enforcement agencies, which should, not be mistaken as a direct duty of protecting clean and free elections.

"The guarantee for free and clean elections should be the responsibility of the Comelec, and the President, as well as all other officials and agencies, should support the Comelec in carrying out this responsibility," the President said.

The President and the First Lady were scheduled to return to Manila after the public rally in Dagupan City this evening.

**November 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred today with Executive Secretary Rufino. G. Hechanova, Justice Secretary Salvador L. Marino, and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., on means of ensuring peace and order in the coming elections.

Also present during the conference were Gen. Alfredo Santos, AFP chief of staff Brig. Gen. Nicanor Garcia, PC chief; Col. Argao and Capt. Jose Algañeses.

Following the conference, the President had a tape-recording of his daily 15-minute radio chat.

The Chief Executive spent the whole morning resting following his return at 2 o'clock today from a two-day barnstorming tour of Pangasinan.

This evening the President hit Vice-President Pelaez saying that the Veep "has hopelessly no chance of winning the presidential elections in 1965." In his nightly radio chat which was extended from the usual 15-minute program to 40 minutes, the President assailed anew Vice-President Pelaez.

It was the second time the President scored the Vice-President since the latter quit his Cabinet position as foreign affairs secretary.



In discounting any chance for the Veep to run as presidential candidate in the 1965 elections, the President cited two reasons:

1. No party will probably get him as a presidential candidate;
2. If he becomes a candidate, he would be an easy “pushover” and would have no chance of winning.

The President’s blast on Pelaez were aired over his nightly radio chat entitled *Pakinggan ang Pangulong Macapagal*.

He charged the Vice-President with “impatient ambition or arrogance” which he said have been destroying his political career.

President Macapagal pointed out that he decided to attack not because “of fear of his political strength” but he wanted the people to know the truth.

The President likewise cited two reasons why the Vice-President has been against him.

1. The President frankly told Pelaez the latter could not be the presidential candidate of the Liberal Party in 1965 because of the number of materials from Luzon who are presidential timbers; namely, Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos, Senators Manuel P. Manahan, Ambrosio Padilla, and Francisco “Soc” Rodrigo; and
2. The Liberal Party will not cover up for its men who are listed in the Stonehill documents.

**November 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today cleared his desk of important pending matters preparatory to his departure to resume his campaign tour of Central Luzon. The President is scheduled to go back to the field again tomorrow with a three-day stump of Tarlac, Nueva Ecija, and Pampanga.

The President will hold his eighth out-of-town Common Man’s Day reception in Cabanatuan City on Friday. He had previously received the common folk in Iloilo City, Davao City, Pasay City, Malolos, Bulacan, Batangas, Batangas, Dagupan City, and Naga City.

This afternoon the Chief Executive ordered the immediate implementation of a law providing for the sale at cost to registered tenants of all housing units of the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation.

The President’s directive was transmitted by Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio to General Manager Jose Villenea of the PHHC.

In the evening the President conferred separately with Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda and Gov. Andres Castillo of the Central Bank, who both called to consult him on matters pertaining to their respective departments.

**November 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal singled out truth as one of the foundational pillars of the Administration and added that his basis of reform is truth, “even truth that hurts.”

In speeches delivered at public rallies in Tarlac today, the President said that the Liberal Party Administration is strong because “it upholds the welfare of the people on the foundation of integrity, truth, and respect for law.”

The President addressed public rallies in Bamban, Capas, La Paz, Victoria, Gerona, Paniqui, and Camiling. He will close today’s stump of Tarlac province with a huge rally in Tarlac town late tonight.

The Chief Executive told the Tarlaqueños that they who attributes lies to the Administration do not understand the complexity of a democratic government that seeks the public welfare.

“If a fact is withheld from public knowledge during a time when its disclosure will cause public injury, that does not make the fact a lie so long as it is disclosed at the proper time,” the President said.

Citing the case of the American flyer, Francis Powers, who was sent on a secret mission on a U-2 plane that fell on Communist territory’s the President said that the U. S. State Department’s withholding of facts about the mission until it was safe to disclose them “did not make the State Department a liar. The President asserted that the disclosure of some facts known to the government has to be timed for the public interest.

The important thing is that the facts are disclosed at the proper time and not permanently withheld, he said.

“Deferment of their disclosure for the public good, does not constitute lying,” the President emphasized.

Leaving Malacañang shortly after 8 a.m., the Presidential convoy found difficulty plowing through, virtual human barricades as soon as it crossed into Tarlac territory.

Local folk, young and old, momentarily put off chores to hail the party along the highway route. Teenagers vied to shake the President’s hands, while jubilant tots shrilling cries of welcome often darted across the motorcade’s path.

The President was accompanied by Gov. Benigno Aquino, Jr., and Agriculture Secretary Jose, Y. Feliciano during his tour of the province. At the Hacienda Luisita in San Miguel where the party had lunch at the residence of Gov. Aquino, the President was joined by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and Rep. Jose Cojuangco.

The President was scheduled to have his dinner at the residence of Serafin David in Tarlac, Tarlac, and to return to Manila after the late evening in this capital town.

The President has ordered the display of the national flag off the Independence flagpole at the Luneta 24 hours a day. In an executive order issued yesterday, the President stated that the national flag symbolizes national solidarity patriotism; and love of country.

It is imperative to inculcate in the minds of our people a continuing consciousness of the patriotic deeds of our heroes and love for the Motherland through the symbolic embodiment thereof for a cohesive, strong, and healthy nation,” he added.

The President also decreed that the flagpole on which the flag will be displayed shall be lighted at night. The Independence flagpole is right in front of the Rizal monument on the Luneta.

The flag will be hoisted as soon as proper lighting is provided for the Independence flagpole.

**November 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal held his eight out-of-town Common Man’s Day reception in Cabanatuan City today. Although the President’ returned to Manila at 3 o’clock this morning from his campaign tour of Tarlac towns yesterday, he was up again by 7 a.m., ready for another motor trip to Nueva Ecija.

Arriving in Cabanatuan City shortly before 10 a.m., the President spent some time inspecting the city’s commercial and residential sections which had been recently gutted by fire.

Then he proceeded to the Nueva Ecija High School where he received the common folk. Assisted by Gov. Eduardo Joson, Rep. Eugenio S. Baltao, and. Rep. Felicisimo Ocampo the President received more than 3,000 persons most of whom came in large groups to consult him on problems of their respective localities.

After receiving his callers, the Chief Executive administered the oath to Cesar E. Gonzales as acting director of, the Central Luzon Cagayan Valley Authority.

The presidential party had lunch at the local office of the Bureau of Public Highways. After a brief rest the President addressed an unscheduled public rally at the city's Freedom Park. Then he had a snack at the Cabanatuan residence of Public Works Undersecretary Manuel Feliciano.

Shortly before 5 p.m. the President motored to Cuyapo, via Guimba. An unexpected turnout of Guimba residents compelled the President to speak before another unscheduled public rally.

Arriving in Cuyapo about 7:30 p.m., the President found thousands of people waiting for him. He had dinner at the residence of Mayor Delfin R. Divina.

The President returned to Manila after the public rally in Cuyapo.

**November 9.**—THE President told the people of his home province that as the political campaign reaches its winding-up stage the nation has obviously decided to support Liberal Party candidates because of the Administration's record of deeds against the Nacionalistas record of words.

In speeches delivered at public rallies during his stump of Pampanga, the President pointed out that on all the issues raised in the current campaign the Liberal Party had stood on its record of deeds while the Nacionalistas had relied on destructive criticism.

The President was scheduled to cover 14 towns of Pampanga in his final stump of the campaign to ensure the election of LP senatorial and local candidates. He had gone to Apalit, Masantol, San Simon, Minalin, Mexico, Sta. Ana, Arayat, and the capital town of San Fernando. From there, he proceeded to Angeles, Porac, Santa Rita, Guagua, and Floridablanca.

The Chief Executive had lunch at the San Fernando residence of acting Gov. G. Enriquez. He had dinner in Angeles at the residence of Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno, LP reelectionist candidate.

The presidential party was expected back in Manila past midnight after the final rally in Floridablanca.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

**President's Week in Review: November 10-16, 1963**

## **President's Week in Review: November 17-23, 1963**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**November 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent the day quietly at Malacañang today. He received no caller.

After an early breakfast the President repaired to his private study where he spent some time reading the Sunday morning newspapers. He then worked on pending papers.

In the afternoon the President heard mass with members of his family at the Malacañang chapel.

**November 18.**—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Macapagal led the nation today in welcoming President and Madame Heinrich Luebke of the Federal Republic of Germany. The German Chief of State arrived this afternoon on a six-day state visit ending November 23.

The First Couple, accompanied by their daughter, Gloria, left Malacañang a few minutes before 4 o'clock, arriving at the Manila International Airport 18 minutes later.

The President upon his arrival at the airport was accorded full military honors by a composite battalion under the command of Philippine Air Force Col. Antonio Evangelista.

The Lufthansa jetliner *Bond* carrying President Luebke touched down at the airport right on schedule. Despite a light rain, thousands of people from all walks of life gave the visitors an enthusiastic welcome.

President Macapagal shared with his distinguished visitor the top-down Malacañang ceremonial car, while Mrs. Macapagal and Madame Luebke rode in another car.

Miss Gloria Macapagal, assisted by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, presented Sampaguita 3e1s to President and Madame Luebke.

Thousands of enthusiastic flag-waving welcomers lined the 10-kilometer route despite a drizzle that started while the entourage was half-way to Malacañang.

The two Chiefs of State and their ladies arrived at Malacañang at 6 o'clock. After signing the Malacañang guest book, they entered the music room, where the First Couple exchanged pleasantries while sipping fresh pineapple juice.

Members of the official party of President Luebke were then presented to President and Mrs. Macapagal.

From the music room President and Madame Luebke were accompanied to their rooms at the left wing of Malacañang Palace where they will stay for the duration of their visit.

The President received earlier this day the elected officials of Pangasinan headed by Gov. elect Francisco Duque. The Chief Executive also received Laguna Gov. Felicisimo San Luis, who was reelected. The President then conferred with Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova on pending matters.

In the evening President and Mrs. Macapagal tendered a state dinner in honor of President and Madame Luebke. During the state dinner President Macapagal conferred on President Luebke the "Rajah of the Order of Sikatuna," and on Madame Luebke the "Golden Heart Presidential Award."

President and Mrs. Macapagal in turn received the Grand Cross, Special Class of the Order of Merit," from President Luebke.

**November 19.**—THIS morning the President received Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, who called prior to leaving for Taipei as head of the Philippine delegation to the Asian Basketball Conference. Sen. Padilla, who was reelected in the last elections, expressed his thanks to the Chief Executive for having campaigned so hard for the LP senatorial ticket resulting in victory.

Rep. Jovito Salonga also bade good-bye to the President before leaving for Berlin to attend an international seminar.

Among others who paid their respects to the President after winning in their respective election bids were Representative-elect Luis N. Lopez of the first district of Batangas, and Governors-elect Rafael Palmares of Iloilo and Manuel Piczon of Masbate.

This afternoon the President congratulated Senate and Liberal Party President Ferdinand Marcos and Speaker Cornelio Villareal for the LP victory in both national and local levels and for having contributed then utmost to the party victory in the last elections.

The President first motored to the Quezon City residence of the Speaker, who was general campaign manager of the LP, and expressed his personal appreciation for the efforts he exerted which, the President said, were greatly responsible for the LP victory, especially in the local elections.

From the residence of the Speaker, the President proceeded to the San Juan residence of Senate President Marcos and congratulated him as party president.

In the evening the President attended the *Fiesta Filipino*, tendered by the First Lady in honor of the First Lady of the Federal Republic of Germany, Madame Heinrich Luebke.

**November 20.**—THIS morning President Macapagal received Justice Roberto Regala of the Supreme Court, who called at Malacañang to present him with a copy of his new book, *World Peace Through Diplomacy and Law*.

The President also received Dr. Juan Salcedo, Jr., chairman of the National Science Development Board, who consulted him on plans for the observance of National Science Week which falls on the first week of December.

Other callers this morning included Governor-elect Rene Espina of Cebu; Rep. Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur, who denounced election frauds and terrorism allegedly perpetrated in his province by the incumbent Nacionalista provincial administration; Philippine Sugar Institute Chairman Marciano Dizon; and Sugar Quota Administration Administrator Conrado Manalansan.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive received a delegation from Negros Occidental headed by newly elected Vice-Gov. Benjamin Gomez, who called to pay his respects following his poll victory.

The delegation included Mayor Mariano Robin of Pontevedra, Dr. Trino Montinola, president of the Sugar Planters Association, Jose Mapa Gomez, Ramon Nolan, and Rodolfo Lizares.

In the evening the President conferred with Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, who consulted him on pending state matters.

The President this evening received Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, who was gunning politically after Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia for having allegedly undermined the official Liberal Party candidate for governor of Davao.

Antonino had previously denounced the public works secretary and was reported to have demanded his ouster from the Cabinet.

Antonino was accompanied by Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos. Antonino reported on the outcome of the elections in Davao.

**November 21.**—THE President worked all morning on state papers in his study.

The President accepted an invitation from the Elizalde Iron and Steel Corporation (ELISCO) to be its guest at the inauguration of its tinning factory in Taguig, Rizal, on December 4. The invitation was extended to the Chief Executive by Manuel Elizalde, who called at the Palace this afternoon.

Earlier this morning the President rode in the first model of a Chrysler turbine-engine car around the Malacañang Palace grounds. The car is on a demonstration tour of 28 countries. It was driven by Charlie Fairbairn of Chrysler International. With the demonstration group were Byron Far-well, Chrysler's director of public relations, and Rodolfo Santiago of Island Motors.

The President then received Philippine Ambassador to the United Nations Jacinto Borja, who called to bid goodbye preparatory to leaving for the UN on Monday to head the Philippine delegation. The President also received Governor-elect H. Arsad Sali of Sulu, who came to pledge cooperation to the Administration. Sali was an independent Liberal candidate. He was accompanied in his call on the Chief Executive by Rep. Salih Ututalum.

Other callers this afternoon were PAGCOM Chairman Conrado Cajator and Sen. Maria Kalaw-Katigbak.

The President thanked today the heads of six colleges and universities for their support to the educational aid program launched recently by the Social Welfare Administration.

In letters sent to the presidents of the educational institutions, Dr. Jose O. Pelayo, acting SWA administrator, said on behalf of the Chief Executive that "scholarship grants from your school will help immeasurably many poor but deserving physically-handicapped SWA clients."

Dr. Pelayo expressed the hope that other learning institutions, particularly those in the Visayas and Mindanao, would authorize similar scholarship grants for deserving client-trainees in their areas.

**November 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received a total of 1,262 "Common Man's Day" callers when he resumed his weekly meeting with the people at Malacañang after holding it about three months out of the Palace.

The Chief Executive attended to his callers from 9:10 o'clock in the morning up to 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon in his study room and at the Malacañang Heroes Hall. He was assisted by the First Lady and the Common Man's Day staffers headed by Deputy Budget Commissioner Amable Aguiluz.

In the afternoon the President received Prince Karim Abdul Hussein Aga Khan IV, leader of the world's Ismaili Muslims, who paid him a courtesy call following his arrival this afternoon.

The Aga Khan is bound for Marawi City where he will be guest of honor and speaker during the first anniversary celebration of the Mindanao University tomorrow.

With the Muslim leader in calling on the President were Vazir Amiraly Fancy president of the Ismailia Federal Council of Pakistan; his emissary, Vazir Amirali Currim; and Inamullah Khan, secretary-general of the World Muslim Congress. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Speaker Protempore and Mrs. Salipada Pendatun, former Sen. Domocao Alonto, Abraham Razul, and A. M. Tahib.

The President also received John Shewan, general manager of the Chartered Bank of London, who likewise paid respects to him.

Shewan arrived yesterday afternoon for a visit to the bank's branches here. With him in calling on the Chief Executive was John E. Pipe, branch manager in Manila.

In the evening the President and the First Lady attended the state dinner tendered in their honor by visiting President of the Federal Republic of Germany and Madame Heinrich Luebke at the Philamlife building on United Nations Avenue.

President Macapagal today declared Thursday, November 28, as a special public holiday for national thanksgiving.

The Chief Executive issued Proclamation No. 181 in which he called, upon all the people to "turn their thoughts on that day to the Lord and offer Him a prayer of thanks for all the blessings He has bestowed upon us."

"It is fitting that a day be set aside on which to dedicate our noblest thoughts in prayer and thanksgiving to God for all the blessings He has showered upon us," the President said.

**November 23.**—THE President led the nation today in mourning the death of U.S. President Kennedy, who was moved clown to death by an assassin's bullets in Dallas, Texas.

The Chief Executive, upon learning of the tragedy, immediately issued a proclamation declaring a period of national mourning for the tragic death.

The President and visiting West German President Luebke were shocked by the tragedy, and immediately the latter issued a statement to the U.S. embassy expressing his grief over the loss of an "influential leader."

President Macapagal and President Luebke had a private breakfast and exchanged parting gifts.

At 8:30 a.m. President Macapagal escorted German President Luebke to the Manila International Airport. President Luebke left at 9:45 a.m. aboard a specially chartered Lufthansa jetliner.

President Macapagal was accompanied to the MIA by the First Lady and their children, Arturo and Gloria.

Also present at the airport were Vice-President Pelaez, Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos, and members of the Cabinet and diplomatic corps.

At the airport President Luebke reiterated his invitation to President Macapagal to make a state visit to Germany.

Upon his return to Malacañang, President Macapagal conferred with Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez on the advisability of issuing a proclamation declaring a period of national mourning for the tragic death of President Kennedy.

In the evening the President addressed the nation over radio and television and reported on the outcome of the last elections.

President Macapagal issued today a proclamation authorizing the Philippine Cancer Society, Inc., to conduct a national educational, membership and fund drive from December 1, 1963, to January 31, 1964.

The President, in his proclamation, noted the achievements of the Philippine Cancer Society towards the prevention and control of cancer. He cited particularly the activities of the society's Detection and Diagnosis Center, which has served free more than 24,000 patients since the society was organized six years ago.

The President called upon national, provincial, city, and municipal officials and employees to extend full and unconditional cooperation to make the campaign a successful one.



President Macapagal today granted a 28-day reprieve to three former Constabulary enlisted men condemned to death for the 1950 Barrio Panampunan massacre in Tarlac. Those reprieved were Sgt. Jose R. Pagaduan Cpl. Agustin Nunag, and. Sgt. Juan Baldonaza.

The Chief Executive granted the new reprieves as “some more time is necessary for a thorough and careful study of the merits of the petition for executive clemency of said prisoners.”

They were scheduled originally to die in the electric chair on Thursday, Nov. 28. The new reprieve order will expire on December 26, this year.

The three Constabulary non-commissioned officers, along with other officers and men of the 19th PC Company at Camp Makabulos. Tarlac, were charged with having mowed to death 14 civilians, including a small boy, in barrio Panampunan in January of 1950.

Of the 14 accused, five were acquitted and cases against three were dismissed while the remaining six, including the three doomed prisoners were sentenced to life imprisonment.

Upon appeal to the Supreme Court, the life sentences of the three noncommissioned officers were raised to the maximum penalty of death.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: November 24-30, 1963**

**November 24.**—THE President woke up very early this morning, and, after breakfast, prepared for his U.S. trip. He issued Executive Order No. 57, providing instructions to be followed in the conduct of public affairs while he is outside the Philippines. He also summoned Justice Secretary Salvador L. Mariño and designated him Acting Executive Secretary in the absence of Executive Secretary Hechanova, to represent the Executive Department while the President is out of the country.

The President designated Assistant Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes as acting press secretary after Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñao, Jr., shall have left for Taipei tomorrow.

President Macapagal left this afternoon for Washington to attend the funeral rites for President John F. Kennedy on Monday. The President was accompanied by the First Lady and a five-man staff headed by Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

The Presidential party left Malacañang at 1:45 p.m. for the Manila International Airport.

After acknowledging military honors, the President held last-minute consultations with Congressional leaders and members of the Cabinet at the MIA quarantine room.

Among officials who consulted with the President were Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Secretary Mariño, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, Senator-elect Gerardo Roxas, and Mayor Antonio J. Villegas of Manila.

The President also had an informal press conference with Manila newspapermen before boarding the regular Pan American flight to the U.S.

Mrs. Irinea Macaraeg, mother of the First Lady, and the President's children Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr., saw the First Couple off.

Among those who bade goodbye to the President were members of the diplomatic corps led by US Ambassador William E. Stevenson, other government officials, and the general public.

The plane bearing the President's party took off at 3:08 p.m.

At Honolulu, the President's party will board the Philippine Air Lines plane Sampaguita en route to Washington. The President and his party are expected to be away four or five days.

**November 25.**—PRESIDENT T Macapagal, together with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, arrived in Washington at 3:01 o'clock this afternoon to attend the funeral of President John F. Kennedy. The President and the First Lady reached the U.S. capital with five others aboard a special Philippine Air Lines flight.

Among the American officials present to welcome the First Couple at the Washington terminal were U.S. Undersecretary of State George Ball, Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs Roger Hilsman, and John D. Rockefeller IV, who is State Department adviser on Philippine culture. Also on hand to welcome the Chief Executive were some 100 members of the Filipino community.

After shaking hands with his welcomers, the President met with a number of Washington reporters.

The President and his party left for the U.S. capital yesterday afternoon aboard a Pan American jetliner by way of Honolulu, where he landed for a 40-minute stop-over and change of planes at 12:50 a.m. today (Manila time).

President Macapagal has signed a proclamation declaring the period from Dec. 8 to 14, this year, as History Week, it was announced today by Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr.

In his proclamation the President urged the people, particularly those in the public and private schools, colleges, and universities, and the officers and members of learned and civic associations to take active part in the commemoration of the Week.

The Chief Executive stated that "it is necessary that the event be brought to the attention of the people to arouse greater interest in, and appreciation for, the life and deeds of our heroes and historical events as a guide in the task of nation-building."

The President also said that a national conference and symposium on the life and achievements of Andres Bonifacio, the Great Plebeian, is being sponsored by the Philippine Historical Association during the second week of December, as a fitting tribute to the memory of the great hero.

**November 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal joined chiefs of state of 26 nations and the American people in paying final tribute to President John F. Kennedy, who was buried in simple but moving rites in Arlington national cemetery Monday (Tuesday, Nov. 26, Manila Time).

The President, together with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, arrived in Washington with five others aboard a special Philippines Air Lines flight yesterday for the funeral rites.

Along with Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy and other members of the Kennedy family, President and Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, and a group of world statesmen and men of power, the President marched in the funeral procession from the White House to the cathedral where ancient prayers of the Catholic church were said for the fallen American President.

Among the foreign notables present were President Heinrich Luebke of the Federal Republic of Germany, President Charles de Gaulle of France, Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, Japan's Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda, President-elect Park Chung-Hee of Korea, First Deputy Premier of the Soviet Union Anastas Mikoyan, Britain's Prime Minister Sir Alex Douglas-Home, Argentine Vice-President Carlos Humberto Perette, President Ramon de Valera of Ireland, Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, and Turkish Premier Ismet Inonu.

A bad cold prevented Mrs. Macapagal from joining the funeral cortege. She was, however, represented by Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

Also in attendance were the creme of the American officialdom and members of the diplomatic corps.

Following the funeral rites, the President met briefly with President Lyndon B. Johnson after a White House reception tendered by the newly-sworn American President in honor of the foreign dignitaries who went to the American capital to pay their homage to President Kennedy.

Mrs. Macapagal was able to make it to the reception and together President and Mrs. Macapagal called on President Johnson and Mrs. Kennedy. Mrs. Macapagal was in black with a gray mink stole and white pearl necklace.

At the reception the Chief Executive also had brief meetings with President Heinrich Luebke of Germany, Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands, Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda of Japan, Chancellor Ludwig Erhard of West Germany, and Korean Foreign Minister Kim Shik.

The President was scheduled to meet with President Johnson at the White House at 11:30 o'clock this evening (10:30 a.m., American time).

**November 27.**—THE President today continued his conference with top American officials in Washington.

He was to meet today (11:30 p.m., Manila time) with U.S. Undersecretary of State Averell Harriman and Roger Hilsman, assistant secretary of state for Far Eastern Affairs, at his hotel suite.

The President met yesterday with President Lyndon B. Johnson on Philippine-American relations and the problems of Southeast Asia.

The President planned to leave Washington for New York on Thursday, returning to Manila by way of San Francisco.

**November 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred early this morning (Wednesday afternoon, U.S. time) with Secretary of State Dean Rusk on Southeast Asian problems and Philippine-American relations.

Now on his third day in Washington where he attended the funeral of President John F. Kennedy, the Chief Executive has met with highest American officials as President Lyndon B. Johnson, U.S. Undersecretary of State Averell Harriman, and Assistant Secretary of State Roger Hilsman.

With the President when he conferred with Harriman were Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and Ambassador Amelito Mutuc.

He was scheduled to meet for the second time with Harriman at breakfast tomorrow at his Shoreham Hotel suite.

With Harriman will be Assistant Secretary of State Hilsman and James D. Bell, director of the Office of Southeast Pacific Affairs.

**November 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in New York early this morning (Thursday evening, US time) from Washington where he had attended the funeral of President Kennedy and conferred with President Lyndon B. Johnson and other high American officials.

On hand in New York to welcome the President and the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, were some 75 members of the Philippine community.

After a brief exchange of pleasantries with welcomers, the First Couple went directly to their hotel suite. The President will be in New York at least until Monday when plans for his trip back to Manila are expected to be finalized.

The President, interviewed on his visit to the U. S., paid tribute to the late President Kennedy, saying that the "Free World has lost a magnificent friend whose wife is a wonderful lady."

He told newsmen that he went to New York because it is going to be his port of embarkation on his way back to Manila.

Joining the U. S. celebration of Thanksgiving Day, the President and the First Lady were dinner guests of members of the board of the California Texas Oil Company.

After the party the Macapagals attended the Broadway comedy, "A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum."

In the evening the First couple were dinner guests of George Moore, president of the First National City Bank of New York, after which they were to attend another play. "How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying."

Representatives of New York's embroidery industry, Leonard Stoll, Samuel Dweek, and Dewey Awae, were scheduled to visit the President in his suite presumably in connection with the P.I.-U.S. dispute on local embroidery materials.

In New York the President was also scheduled to visit the United Nations and may confer with some heads of delegations in the world organization.

**November 30.**—MALACANANG confirmed this day reports that President Macapagal is making a side-trip to Nigeria, Tanganyika, and Zanzibar in Africa.

Acting Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño issued a statement confirming press reports on the President's African visit after Manila newspapers, for want of official statement from authoritative sources, speculated heavily on the President's projected trip to Africa.

It was learned the President will proceed to Africa sometime next week. Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova leaves tomorrow for Nigeria to pave the way for President Macapagal's trip to that African state.

On his second day in New York City the President went through a round of conferences with top United Nations officials and those with interests in Philippine affairs.

The President breakfasted with UN Secretary General U Thant at the former's Waldorf-Astoria suite. Also present at the breakfast were Dr. Sudjarwo Tjondronegoro, Indonesian deputy foreign minister.

The President's meeting with U Thant and the Indonesian official was believed devoted to a discussion of easing the tension which has built up in Southeast Asia over the birth of Malaysia.

President Macapagal also lunched with David Rockefeller, president of the Chase and Manhattan Bank and one of the leaders of the Asia Society, a private organization seeking to promote prosperous advancement of Asian nations.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1963). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 59 (43), ccclxiii-ccclxvi.

## **President's Month in Review: December 1-7, 1963**

**December 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred over the weekend with embroidery industry leaders of the United States who have a 15-million-a-year business with the Philippines. The textile officials who saw the President at his Waldorf-Astoria suite were Leonard Stoll, Sam Dweck, and Dewey Awad.

The President expressed his appreciation to the embroidery officials for their interest in keeping the business going in spite of the recent quota imposed by the US government.

American cotton textiles sent to the Philippines to be worked into finished products affect about 350,000 Filipinos engaged in the piecework home craft.

After the conference the President devoted the rest of the day to personal affairs and to state matters which had piled up during his absence from Manila.

Sketchy reports reaching Manila today said that President Macapagal is finally booked to take off aboard a jetliner from New York City Thursday for a whirlwind visit to some African states.

Although early speculations said that the President will visit three African states, namely Nigeria, Tanganyika, and Zanzibar, reports from New York stated that President Macapagal will enplane to Liberia Thursday and arrive in Monrovia Friday.

The President was reported highly enthusiastic over his projected African tour. It is possible that the President may visit other countries in Africa aside from Liberia, Nigeria, Tanganyika, and Zanzibar.

President Macapagal cancelled today his scheduled luncheon date with Ambassador Jacinto Borja, chief of the Philippine Mission to the United Nations in New York City, and instead planned to go to the Tarrytown, residence of David Rockefeller.

Rockefeller, president of the world-famous Chase Manhattan Bank, had a private luncheon with the President last Friday. Their second meeting today was understood to be devoted to the possibility of tapping the Chase Manhattan Bank for dollar loans to help implement the Macapagal socioeconomic program.

The President was also scheduled to meet Gov. Nelson Rockefeller. President Macapagal's meeting with the New York, Gov. Rockefeller, will give the Philippine President the GOP views on varied issues involving this country.

**December 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today conferred lengthily with Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova on various matters affecting the country's welfare and on their projected trip to Africa.

Earlier, the President heard mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. From the cathedral, the Chief Executive took a morning drive down Fifth Avenue.

Later the President left for Tarrytown where he had lunch with David Rockefeller, president of the Chase Manhattan Bank. The visit was described as "a personal call." As usual, security precautions were taken by Federal and State police agencies.

After his luncheon engagement with the bank executive, the President met at cocktails with New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller.

In the evening President and Mrs. Macapagal were dinner guests of Ambassador and Mrs. Jacinto Borja. From the Borja residence, the First Couple were scheduled to attend the showing of the *The Wheeler Dealer*, an American comedy film to be shown at the Radio City Music Hall.

**December 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today held his “Common Man’s Day” in New York and received several Filipinos in U.S. at the Philippine consulate in that city.

As he visited the Philippine consulate and the Philippine mission in New York, the President decided not to deliver a speech, but he received the Filipinos individually to hear their complaints.

The common complaint aired was lack of incentive for residents and retiring old-timers to return to the Philippines.

Among those who saw the President were Amado Samson, commander of the Philippine post of the American Legion, and Marciana Cortes, president of the Philippine Nurses Association.

The President also met with Liberia’s Secretary of State Rudolf Grimes, some top business executives, and about 300 other persons.

Secretary Grimes saw the President to extend a formal invitation from President William Tubman.

The President got his formal invitation two days before his scheduled take-off from New York City for Liberia, that first state in Africa he will visit.

President Macapagal said he was “greatly honored” by the invitation.

Earlier, the President received A. D. Calhoun, an official of the First National City Bank of New York and president of the Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce, who brought along seven businessmen.

After an hour-long conversation with President Macapagal, Calhoun confirmed his belief that “there is a growing interest in foreign investments in the Philippines.”

After meeting with the U.S. bankers, the President motored to the World’s Fair and inspected the site of the Philippine pavilion.

He was accompanied by the First Lady and Jeffrey Ellis, New York architect who assured the First Couple that the pavilion would be finished by January 25.

In the evening the President was invited to dinner by Gabriel Hauge, president of the Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company of New York, during which they discussed economic development and financial projects in the Philippines.

**December 4.**—NEWS reports coming from New York say that President Macapagal has decided to omit Zanzibar from his four-day tour of two African countries.

Early reports said that the President was going to Africa to attend the independence ceremonies of Zanzibar on December 9.

Malacañang immediately confirmed the reports that President Macapagal, who has been staying in New York preparatory to his side-trip to Africa, has excluded Zanzibar from his itinerary.

He had also planned to go to Nigeria but later on changed his mind and is instead proceeding to Liberia. Reports said that there were difficulties in contacting authorities in Zanzibar.

Cancellation of the Zanzibar trip advanced the President’s scheduled return to Manila from December 12 to 11.

While in New York City, the President met with Mayor Robert Wagner of New York with whom he discussed various official matters and problems for one hour at his Waldorf Astoria Hotel suite.

The President also met with representatives of New York's banking and publishing companies.

He had lunch with George Murphy, president of the Irving Trust Company of New York. Their discussions centered on the Philippine policy of economic development under the free enterprise system.

President Macapagal later on conferred with the executives of the *Journal of Commerce* and *Time and Life* magazines.

**December 5.**—REPORTS reaching Manila today said President Macapagal, who is scheduled to leave at 9 a.m. tomorrow for a five-day African safari, may proceed to Madagascar.

Up to late this day the President's aides were still finalizing the President's hurried side-trip to Africa. He will board a Pan-American Airways jetliner which has been christened *Clipper Sampaguita* to give it a native touch. The Pan-Am. Airways plane will take the President and members of his party to Roberts Fields in Liberia.

As he finalized his African trip, the President met this day with Erasto Mang-enya, Tanganyika ambassador to the United Nations, in his Waldorf-Astoria Hotel suite.

Mang-enya received President Macapagal's acceptance of an invitation from Tanganyika to attend the third independence celebration of that African state on December 9. The President had previously accepted the invitation of Liberian authorities to visit Liberia as his first state call in his African safari.

President Macapagal also received Madagascar's Foreign Minister Albert Sylla and Ambassador Louis Rakodomalala, who called on the Philippine Chief Executive. Sylla informed the President that he was welcome to visit Madagascar and that no official invitation was necessary for a visit to that state.

It was learned that the President will visit Madagascar after visiting Tanganyika and will delay his scheduled arrival in Manila from December 11 to the next day.

Reports from New York City, where the President stayed pending finalization of his African itinerary, said that President Macapagal wanted to visit African states to forge a closer relations between the Philippines and these countries.

The President had lunch with J. V. Pickering, president of the Esso Eastern.

He was also visited by officials of the Pan American Airways, the Columbia Bank Note Company, and *Newsweek*, a U.S. weekly newsmagazine.

**December 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal has converted Pan Am chartered jet clipper, *Sampaguita*, into a flying executive office for the duration of his nine-day African trip. Immediately after takeoff from Idlewild Airport, the President began reviewing drafts of speeches he will deliver in Liberia, Tanganyika, and Madagascar. Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova submitted to the President the drafts of the speeches.

The President worked on the drafts of the speeches as the African coast slid by. He also caught up with the latest developments at home by reading Philippine newspapers he received just before leaving New York.

Pan American officials have pulled out all stops in order to provide utmost safety and convenience to the party. Prior to departure from New York, Secretary Hechanova and Capt. Vicente Rivera, Civil Aeronautics administrator, presented to the President Chief Pilot Jess Tranton of the PAA Atlantic Division Federal Aviation Agency officials.



President Macapagal expressed gratitude for the measures taken to ensure for him and his party an enjoyable stay in the United States and safety in the trip. President and Mrs. Macapagal noted on entering the plane the Philippine flag and the presidential standard at the sides of the pilot's cockpit.

Mrs. Macapagal was much pleased by the greetings extended to her at the entrance to the aircraft by Tagalog-speaking stewardess Shirley Hart. Miss Hart was born in San Roque, Cavite City, and she studied in Philippine high schools.

She was specially assigned to assist in the whole trip of President Macapagal.

The Pan Am clipper *Sampaguita* bears the Philippine Presidential seal. The plane took to the air 20 minutes ahead of schedule in anticipation of headwinds, for protocol required the timely arrival of the aircraft at Roberts Field.

Earlier, Federal Aviation Agency technicians, in cooperation with Administrator Rivera, checked out the aircraft and certified to its airworthiness. Upon the suggestion of Rivera, the plane took on an extra load of fuel as an additional safety factor.

While in the flight to Liberia, Secretary Hechanova wired Acting Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño in Malacañang and requested that three Philippine awards be flown to Tanganyika.

Richard MacNamara, Pan American regional security officer, was assigned to accompany the presidential party, together with Liaison Officer Ronald Mackenzie, a Manila oldtimer.

Hechanova indicated that owing, to the tight schedule, arrangements were made for the celebration of a high mass at dawn Sunday, before takeoff for Dar es Salaam in commemoration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

**December 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived today in Liberia on his first state visit to an African state. He was accompanied by the First Lady, Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, and other members of the party.

The presidential party, which took off from New York yesterday aboard a Pan American World Airways *Clipper Sampaguita*, landed at Roberts Field, from where the President journeyed 50 miles in a motorcade to Monrovia, capital of Liberia.

The President was given a rousing reception by Liberians who lined the streets waving Philippine flags.

President and Mrs. William Tubman of Liberia welcomed President and Mrs. Macapagal at the airport on their arrival. The cream of Liberian officialdom was on hand to greet the visitors from the Philippines.

The President was rendered military honors upon arrival, while Mrs. Tubman presented a bouquet to Mrs. Macapagal.

President Macapagal met with Monrovia's diplomatic corps in the afternoon. He was presented afterward with the symbolic key to Monrovia by Mayor Nathan Ross of that city.

In the evening President and Mrs. Tubman tendered a state banquet in honor of President and Mrs. Macapagal.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1963). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 59 (49), ccclxix-ccclxxii.

### **President's Month in Review: December 15-21, 1963**

**December 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal flew into Bangkok at dawn today for a brief visit to pay his final respects to the late Prime Minister Sarit Thanarat of Thailand. The remains of the Thai leader, who died last Sunday after a lingering illness, lie in state at the Marble Palace awaiting elaborate funeral rites and cremation in the Bhuddist tradition.

The President arrived in Bangkok from Tananarive, Malagasy, an island state off the east coast of the African Continent, after an hour's stopover in Bombay. The President's party was returning home via Africa from the United States where the Chief Executive attended the funeral of President John F. Kennedy.

In Bombay the President landed at Santa Cruz airport where he was received by Indian officials and the Philippine envoy to India, Ambassador and Mrs. Mauro Calingo.

President and Mrs. Macapagal talked with Ambassador Calingo and the honorary Indian consul general for the Philippines, K. M. Modi and Mrs. Modi, and with S. G. Barve Maharashtra, state industries minister.

The President told airport reporters that his government was actively considering measures for increasing trade relations between India and the Philippines.

Speaking highly of India's role in the United Nations, the President said that since the Philippines, too, is a member of the world organization, the UN forms a good basis for dealings between India and the Philippines.

Upon arrival at the Bangkok airport, the President, accompanied by the First Lady and the other members of his party, was met by Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman and a group of Thai officials.

From the airport the President and his party drove immediately to Borompimarn Palace, the ornate residence for state guests in the heart of Bangkok, where they slept.

After four hours' sleep, the President heard mass. After the mass the President conferred with Thailand's new Prime Minister Thanom Kittikachorn and Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman.

Later, the President and the First Lady were luncheon guests of King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit at Chitralada Palace.

In the afternoon the First Couple were scheduled to attend a *merienda*, given by the Filipino community at the Philippine embassy in Bangkok.

The President devoted the rest of his time working on a speech he would give when he returns home tomorrow afternoon.

**December 16.**—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Macapagal returned this afternoon to the United States, Africa, and Thailand. They went down the ramp of their Pan American jetliner at 3:50 p.m. amidst the cheers and applause of a large crowd which welcomed them at the Manila International Airport.

Heading the welcomers were acting Executive Secretary Salvador Mariño, Senate President and Mrs. Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker and Mrs. Cornelio T. Villareal, members of the Cabinet, Congress, the judiciary, the diplomatic corps, and their ladies.

Also with the welcomers were the Macapagal children, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.

After military honors rendered by a composite contingent from the Army, Constabulary, Navy, and Air Force, the President and the First Lady went around and shook hands with their welcomers. Then they mounted a platform where the President thanked the people for the warm reception accorded him and members of his party. The President was introduced by Secretary Mariño.

Following the airport ceremonies, the President and the First Lady boarded their No. 1 car and headed a long motorcade to Malacañang. They were followed by the car of Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, who headed the small staff which accompanied the First Couple in the goodwill visits to foreign countries.

Crowds in Parañaque, Pasay, and Manila, as well as provincial delegations who had come to the city to welcome the President, lined the route of the motorcade. Waving Philippine flags and welcome banners, the people cheered as the presidential car passed by.

Arriving in Malacañang about 5 p.m., the President and the First Lady spent some time exchanging impressions with friends, who followed them to the Palace. They had a *merienda* of *puto*, *dinuguan*, and *lumpia*, and local delicacies which the First Couple might have missed during their trip abroad.

Among the *merienda* visitors were Secretary Mariño, Secretary Hechanova, Education Secretary Alejandro Roces, Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda, and Civil Service Commissioner Abelardo Subido and their ladies.

Earlier this morning the President and the First Lady paid a farewell call on King Bhumibol and Queen Sirikit at the Chitralada Palace in Bangkok. They took off from the Bangkok airport at 1 p.m. for the return trip to Manila.

Among those who saw them off at the airport were ranking Thai officials headed by Prime Minister Thamon Kittikachorn, members of the local diplomatic corps, and some members of the Filipino community.

**December 17.**—THIS morning the President received Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, who made a farewell call prior to his departure for Tokyo this afternoon to explore possibilities of tapping overdue reparations payments for public works projects.

Secretary Valencia informed the President that during his four to five days' stay in the Japanese capital he would also try to negotiate for the procurement, through reparations, of a P75,000 thermal unit for the National Power Corporation. The unit, he said, will provide additional power in preparation for the expected power shortage in 1965.

President Macapagal this evening made a half-hour report to the nation over the radio and television on his 22-day visit to the United States, Africa, and Thailand.

The President, together with the First Lady and members of his party, returned yesterday afternoon on board a Pan American jetliner from Bangkok.

The President's 19-page report was delivered from the State dining room of Malacañang and was telecast "live" over Channel 11, 13, and 5 and re-telecast over Channels 3 and 9 later in the evening. It was broadcast over 14 city and 11 provincial radio stations and two shortwave radio stations with some replays later in the evening.

The President proclaimed Wednesday, December 18, a special public holiday in the province and the city of Iloilo in commemoration of the 107th birth anniversary of the patriot, Graciano Lopez Jaena.

In Proclamation No. 184 the President said that the people of the birthplace of the outstanding patriot should be given full opportunity to observe the day.

Lopez Jaena was born in Jaro, Iloilo in 1856. He was founder and editor of *La Solidaridad*, a fortnightly paper which he published in Spain as the best way of projecting the cause of his native land to the attention of the Spanish Crown as well as of the world.

President and Mrs. Macapagal have extended their condolence to Mrs. Vicenta Cabahug, widow of Justice Sotero Cabahug, who died Sunday at the age of 73.

In a wire sent yesterday evening the First Couple stated that the record of public service which Justice Cabahug left behind is "one you and your family can always cherish and take pride in."

**December 18.**—THIS morning the President had a breakfast conference with General Carlos P. Romulo, president of the University of the Philippines. He offered Gen. Romulo the post of presidential adviser on foreign affairs, which the Gen. gladly accepted. Gen. Romulo will discharge the duties of his new position in addition to his duties as president of the state university.

The President also received in the morning a string of callers composed of newly-elected provincial and city officials, members of Congress, and business leaders.

Governors-elect Manuel Pecson of Masbate and Adela Serra Ty of Surigao del Sur and Mayor-elect Norberto de Guzman of Baguio City called on the Chief Executive to discuss with him problems of their respective regions and their programs of government come January.

Mayor-elect De Guzman requested national support in the improvement of Baguio's water system as well as in the solution of its squatter problems. He also requested the suspension of Public Land Act No. 141 until after planning has been made on the type of buildings to be constructed in Baguio's townsite.

Governor-elect Adela Serra Ty of Surigao del Sur, who came with Rep. Vicente Pimentel, requested the release of P300,000 for the construction of the capitol building.

Reps. Felipe Abrigo and Eladio Balite of Samar, Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo, and Luis Hora of Mt. Province took up problems of their respective districts with the Chief Executive.

Also received by the President were officers of the League of Municipal Judges led by Judge Brigido G. Estrada of Lingayen, Pangasinan, league president, who requested the immediate and full implementation of Republic Act No. 3828 providing for salary increases of municipal judges, creation of clerical positions in the municipal courts, and other operating expenses.

The President assured the league officers that he would take up the matter with the Budget Commission for early implementation of the law.

Other league officers in the group were Judges Severino de Leon of Sorsogon, executive vice-president; Augusto G. Santamaria of Rosario, Cavite, vice-president for Luzon; Pacito Mutia of Mindanao, vice-president for Mindanao; Francisco Sanchez of Capas, Tarlac, secretary; Salome A. Montoya of Tanay, Rizal, treasurer; Judges Jesus O. Rebutillo of Albay, auditor; and Doroteo Cañeba of San Vicente, Camarines Norte, Jesus Angustia of Masbate, Teofilo de Guia of Bauan, Batangas, Froilan E. Samonte of Laoag, Ilocos Norte, German Vilgera of Libmanan, Camarines Sur; and Domingo Reyes of Malolos, Bulacan—members of the board of directors.

Other morning callers included Jose Mapa Gomez and Hilarion Henares, Jr., president of the Philippine Chamber of Industries, who took up economic matters with the President in relation to the Administration's socio-economic program.

In the afternoon the President received Ambassador William Stevenson of the United States and Emile de Curton of France. Ambassador Stevenson presented the President with souvenir pictures taken while the Chief Executive was

in conference with President Lyndon B. Johnson after the funeral rites for President John F. Kennedy in Washington last month, as well as pictures of the President during the funeral ceremonies and while laying a wreath at the tomb of the fallen American President.

Ambassador De Curton came to transmit the personal greetings of President Charles de Gaulle of France to the President. The French envoy arrived recently after a brief visit to France.

President Macapagal conferred with Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez at Malacañang this evening. During the conference the President expressed full confidence in Lopez and persuaded him to continue serving in the Cabinet as foreign affairs secretary.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation declaring December 31 this year a special public holiday.

December 31 is sandwiched between Rizal Day (December 30) and New Year's Day, both national public holidays.

The President, in his proclamation No. 185, said that December 31 this year "may be declared a special public holiday without prejudice to the public interests."

**December 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred this morning with acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez and UP President Carlos P. Romulo on foreign affairs matters. The conference, which was held in the President's study, lasted 45 minutes.

Earlier this morning the President received Governors-elect Norberto Romualdez, Jr., of Leyte, Esteban Piczon of Samar, and Rafael Palmares of Iloilo, who took up with him pressing problems of their respective provinces.

Palmares also invited the Chief Executive to attend his inauguration on January 4 in his hometown of Passi.

This afternoon the President received the credentials of Major General Yang Soo Yoo as Korea's new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Philippines.

The President also received BIR Commissioner Ramon Oben, and they took up matters concerning the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

**December 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal and the First Lady honored at luncheon today General Abdul Harris Nasution, Indonesian defense minister and Armed Forces chief of staff, and Mrs. Nasution.

The Indonesian top defense official arrived yesterday on a three-day goodwill visit.

Present at the luncheon held at the State dining room were Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Salvador P. Lopez, Indonesian Ambassador and Mrs. Nazir Dt. Pamontjak, Defense Secretary and Mrs. Macario Peralta, Jr., Indonesian Ambassador Soedjarwo Tjondronegoro, General and Mrs. Alfredo Santos, General Pedro Q. Molina, Major General Soeprapto, Air Commodore Makki Perdanakusuma, General and Mrs. Ernesto Mata, General and Mrs. Jonas Victoria, General and Mrs. Nicanor Garcia, Commodore and Mrs. Juan Magluyan, Colonel Rusmin Murjadin, Presidential Senior Aide Col. Victor Dizon, Lt. Col. Soedarsono, Lt. Col. A. J. M. Pieter, and Major Gunawan.

Earlier, in his study, the President received Nasution, who called to pay his respects. The Indonesian General was accompanied in his courtesy call on the Chief Executive by Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak.

The President had his hands full this morning attending to his Common Man's Day callers numbering 1,528 who flocked to Malacañang to ask for assistance on various matters. The Chief Executive attended to the general public continuously from 8:45 o'clock in the morning to 12:30 p.m.

He was assisted in attending to his numerous callers by the First Lady and the Common Man's Day staff headed by Deputy Budget Commissioner Amable Aguiluz.

In the afternoon the President received a group of American financiers from A. F. Axelrod Co., Inc., who paid him a courtesy call. Accompanied by Jess T. Quiambao and Col. Moises Buhain, the group was composed of A. F. Axelrod, company president, Leon Juras, and J. Roy Derrick.

President Macapagal has signed a proclamation declaring January 15 to March 31, next year, as the 7th annual fund campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross, it was announced today by Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr.

In his proclamation the President urged all citizens and residents of this country, as well as all associations and organizations, to help actively in this campaign by giving generously of their means, time, and effort to realize the aims and purposes of the Philippine National Red Cross.

**December 21.**—THIS morning the President received retired U.S. Ambassador John Allyson, who paid him a courtesy call.

Ambassador Allyson arrived last Wednesday on a brief visit. He was accompanied to Malacañang by Benigno Toda, Jr., board chairman of the Philippine Air Lines.

Other morning callers included Gov. Eduardo Joson of Nueva Ecija and Senator-elect Juan R. Liwag. They took up with the President pressing problems of Nueva Ecija.

The President received Senate President Ferdinand Marcos at Malacañang this evening.

Earlier, the President received Indonesian Defense Minister Abdul Harris Nasution, who called to bid goodbye prior to leaving tonight for Bangkok. Minister and Mrs. Nasution arrived recently on a three-day goodwill visit.

With Nasution during his 30-minute call on the Chief Executive were Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez and Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1963). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 59 (51), ccclxxxi-ccclxxxv.

## **President's Month in Review: December 22-28, 1963**

**December 22.**—THE Chief Executive spent a quiet Sunday at Malacañang with members of his family. He received no caller.

After a light breakfast with Mrs. Macapagal at the family dining room, the President repaired to his private study where he spent some time reading the Sunday morning papers.

The President then went over a pile of official papers, including records of prisoners recommended for pardon by the Board of Pardons and Parole. Traditionally, the President extends executive clemency to deserving prisoners during the Christmas season.

At 11:45 a.m. the President and the First Lady went down to the Palace chapel to hear mass.

Following a brief rest in the afternoon, the President resumed work in his study.

He also spent some time watching television in the evening with members of his family.

President Macapagal this evening resumed his weekly broadcast to the nation entitled *Pakinggan ang Pañgulong Macapagal*. The message was broadcast and rebroadcast by all major radio stations in Manila and the provinces.

**December 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal devoted another day today to working over official papers and reviewing the records of prisoners recommended for pardon by the Board of Pardons and Parole.

Except for Rep. Amadeo Perez of Pangasinan, with whom he conferred on the Administration's program of government the Chief Executive did not receive callers. Rep. Perez called on the President to pledge all-out support for him in 1965.

The President closeted himself in his private study after reading the morning newspapers and having breakfast with the First Lady. He spent part of the time going over the records of deserving prisoners recommended for executive clemency traditionally granted by the President during Christmas.

The President had a late luncheon and a brief rest, after which he resumed work in his study.

The President granted today executive clemency to 81 prisoners upon flip recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole. The prisoners were among those recommended for pardon traditionally extended by the President during Christmas.

Of those extended executive clemency, 20 were for conditional pardon, 24 for absolute pardon, two for special absolute pardon, and 35 commutation of sentence.

The President also granted today a new reprieve to three former Constabulary enlisted men condemned to death for the 1950 barrio Panampunan massacre in Tarlac.

Granted a 30-day reprieve were Sgt. Jose R. Pagaduan, Sgt. Juan Baldonaza, and Cpl. Agustin Nunog. The three soldiers were scheduled originally to die on the electric chair on Thursday, December 26.

The Chief Executive granted the reprieve as "some more time is still needed for a thorough and careful study of the merits of the petition for executive clemency of said prisoners.

The three convicts, along with 11 other officers and men of the 19th PC Company in Camp Makabulos, Tarlac, were accused of having massacred 14 civilians, including a small boy, in barrio Panampunan in January of 1950.

**December 24.**—THIS morning President Macapagal received a one-hour closed-door briefing on all aspects of governmental operations from Director-General Armand Fabella of the Program Implementation Agency. The briefing, which was held late this morning at the PIA's briefing room on Arlegui Street, was attended also by Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., and Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco.

Back at the Palace at past noon, the President reviewed major Administration moves during the past year with the members of his Cabinet. Present at the informal meeting were Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Justice Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Commerce Secretary Cornelio T. Balmaceda, Finance Secretary Rodrigo Perez, Jr., General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes, Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, NEC Chairman Sixto K. Roxas III, PIA Director-General Armand Fabella, OEC Administrator Eleuterio Adevos, Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., and Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco.

Also present were Customs Commissioner Jose B. Lingad and NSDB Chairman Juan Salcedo, Jr.

The President received this noon members of his Cabinet and their ladies who came to wish him and the First Lady the season's greetings.

The President formed a separate group with the Cabinet members, while the First Lady handled the distaff side of the get-together.

At luncheon the President ate with the department secretaries while the First Lady had a separate table with the Cabinet ladies.

After a brief rest in the afternoon, the President worked on state papers in his private study.

**December 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal deferred today his scheduled trip to Baguio or Lubao, Pampanga, but motored to Sapang Palay, San Jose, Bulacan, to play Santa Claus to the relocated squatters in that resettlement area.

Accompanied by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria, the President left Malacañang at 8:15 a.m. and arrived in Sapang Palay at 9 a.m.

The First Lady was greeted with Christmas cheers, and although the visit was billed as a surprise tour of the squatters' area, the President found placards greeting him and the First Lady with Christmas greetings. The President and the First Lady distributed Christmas packages.

A relocated squatter said upon seeing the President: "We are not unfortunate after all. The President is here on this day."

The First Family was joined by Social Welfare Officer in Charge Jose O. Pelayo and SWA Executive Assistant Teofilo Asuncion, who assisted the President and the First Lady in distributing gifts.

Most of the settlers were former squatters from Intramuros. The President talked to the squatters. One of them, Remedios Carag, sought the President's help for her husband, Francisco Carag, who is suffering from ulcers.

Malacañang said that the gifts boxes and bags given to about 1,600 squatters contained canned goods, rice, clothing, toys, toilet articles, and school supplies.

From Sapang Palay, the President and the First Lady returned to Malacañang.



They heard mass and received Holy Communion on Christmas Eve at the San Beda chapel on Mendiola Street. With the First Couple were their children, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.

After the midnight mass, the President had midnight snacks with the members of his family at the family dining room in the Palace.

**December 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred today with Secretary of foreign Affairs Salvador P. Lopez on the projected visit here of Indonesian President Ahmed Sukarno sometime next month. Lopez has been making arrangements for the Indonesian leader's visit with Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt. Patmonjak.

Secretary Lopez also took up with the Chief Executive matters concerning his department, including proposed appointments to the foreign service as well as proposed transfers in assignments of foreign affairs officers.

With the exception of Secretary Lopez, the President received no other caller. The President spent most of the day acting on official pacers pending on his desk.

Late this morning the President and the First Lady sent a wreath to the tomb of Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson in the North Cemetery on the late Mayor's 51st birth anniversary today. Mayor Lacson died following a heart attack in April last year.

**December 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today Public Works Secretary Brigido R. Valencia, who reported on his recent trip to Japan to explore the possibility of tapping overdue reparations payments for public works projects.

In his report Secretary Valencia said that the Japanese government has offered a \$100 million-loan for the financing of development programs under the Mindanao Development Authority. He also said that the Japanese reparations mission is willing to include in reparations payments construction materials such as cement, reinforcing and structural steel, and electrical equipment.

Valencia said that aside from reparations payments, financing of projects under the MDA will come from the Asian Cooperative Development Fund, which is willing to grant loans for a period of 20 years at 3.5 per cent interest.

Projects contemplated under the MDA development program include improvement of national roads and construction of a railway, development of basic industries, increased electric power, and development of raw materials for industries.

The President spent most of the day on state papers in his study.

**December 28.**—UP EARLY this morning, the Chief Executive had a light breakfast with the First Lady after which he repaired to his private study where he tackled a pile of pending papers.

The President today continued to devote most of his time to clearing his desk of state papers.

Shortly before noon the President received Governor-elect Rene Espina of Cebu, who consulted him on his program of government upon his induction as provincial executive.

Espina invited the Chief Executive to his inauguration as governor of Cebu.

In the afternoon the President received metropolitan newsmen covering the Palace who extended season's greetings to him and the First Lady. He also received Louis Farb, consultant of the *Evening News*, who paid him a courtesy call.

Earlier in the evening the President met with Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova on pending matters.

President Macapagal today played Santa Claus to Malacañang newsmen who trooped to the Palace in their best holiday suit.

Although it is commonly known as Innocents Day this day, it is still part of the Yulitide season.

President Macapagal received the Malacañang newsmen who were led by Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr., and greeted them with the best wishes of the season.

He presented each of them with a Christmas gift, a "Supreme gas-lighter," presumably bought in New York when the President and the First Lady were in that city.

The President said he was grateful for the cooperation extended by the press during his first two years in office.

"We have tried our best," the President said. "If we made mistakes, it was because we are human."

He emphasized, however, that all his actuations were made in the interest of the country and with the thought that it was<sup>1</sup> the best under the circumstances. He said he wanted to meet the newsmen again next week.

After receiving the Malacañang newsmen, the President received Teodoro F. Valencia, who said that he was called by the President in connection with the columnist's project of beautifying the Luneta.

The President also received Sen. Estanislao Fernandez and, although there were no details released on this meeting, it was hinted that the Chief Executive discussed the possibility of calling a special session of Congress to enable President Sukarno to address both chambers of Congress.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1963). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 59 (52), ccclxxxix-cccxcii.

## **Official Week in Review: December 29 – January 4, 1964**

**December 29.**—THIS morning the President honored 30 honest persons at a breakfast in Malacañang.

Afterward the President gave his guests a copy each of Sol Gwekoh's *Triumph over Poverty*, a biography of the President.

President Macapagal this noon heard a requiem mass offered in memory of President John F. Kennedy. The mass was celebrated at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Manila by Rufino Cardinal Santos.

The President was accompanied to the Cathedral by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria.

After the mass the First Couple were luncheon guests of Cardinal Santos at his cathedral residence.

Among those who heard the mass with the First Couple and who also were guests at the luncheon were Sen. Maria Kalaw-Katigbak, and Msgrs. Justiniano Ortiz, Jose del Rosario, and Benjamin Mariño. The luncheon lasted two hours.

In the evening the President spoke on his radio program, *Pakinggan ang Pangulong Macapagal*.

In between his official functions, the President went over pending state papers.

**December 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led the nation today in paying homage to the national hero, Dr. Jose Rizal. The President went early this morning to the Luneta where he laid a wreath at the Rizal monument.

He was met at the Luneta by civic leaders led by Teodoro F. Valencia, who contributed much toward the beautification of the monument.

The President was accompanied by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria.

From the Luneta the President and his party proceeded to San Fernando, Pampanga, arriving at the provincial capitol at 9:50 a.m.

The President administered the oath of office to reelected Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno and Vice-Governor Angel Macapagal, the President's younger brother.

From Pampanga the President's party motored to Pangasinan and proceeded to Princess Orduja Palace, the governor's mansion in Lingayen.

In another induction ceremony, the President swore in Gov. Francisco Q. Duque.

The President was met on arrival at the mansion by ex-Gov. Conrado Estrella, who handed to Gov. Duque the key to the mansion in the presence of the President and amidst the cheers of the crowd.

Before motoring to Pangasinan, the President passed by Magalang town in Pampanga and condoled with the bereaved family of the late Mayor Benedicto Dayrit of that town.

Dayrit was slain at the centennial celebration of the founding of Magalang two days ago. His remains were lying in state at the town hall.

In speeches delivered by the President in Pampanga and Pangasinan induction rites he urged the new officials to be guided by Rizal's ways in the conduct of their public duties.

The President said it was significant that their induction coincided with the national observance of Rizal Day. He said that Rizal advocated love of country through love and not through violence.

The President had dinner at the Princess Urduja palace.

From the Lingayen the President will motor to Manila. He was expected track late in the night.

**December 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal expressed the hope that the joint effort of Congress and the Executive could satisfactorily meet the vexing problems of prices and rice supply.

In speeches delivered at induction rites for elective Leyte and Samar officials, the President also made an assessment of the Administration's achievements in the past two years. He stressed the following points:

- (1) We had first to stop and remedy many things that were not right before we could move forward.
- (2) There is less graft and more honesty in the government service now.
- (3) The prestige of the country is higher now throughout the world.
- (4) There is more freedom than before.
- (5) There are varied opportunities for profitable ventures for hardworking citizens.
- (6) Increased incomes have started to catch up with the rise of prices.

The Chief Executive was guest at the formal induction of Gov. Norberto Romualdez, Jr., of Leyte and Gov. Esteban Piczon of Samar.

In reviewing the two-year performance of the Administration, the President said that "considering the difficulties encountered, we are satisfied with what has been achieved so far."

The President also said that in the first half of 1964, the Administration would seek legislation to implement fully the five-year program and meet the problems of prices and rice supply.

"This is looked forward to with optimism because in the next session, both Houses of Congress will be under the constitutional control of the Liberal Party for the first time under the present administration," he added.

The President left Malacañang at 8:30 o'clock this morning, arriving in Tacloban aboard the presidential plane *Common Men*, at 10:20 a.m.

After the induction rites the President had lunch at the residence of Governor Romualdez.

From Tacloban the President enplaned for Calbayog City, where he boarded the *RPS Rajah Soliman* for Catbalogan, Samar. He was scheduled to arrive at Catbalogan at 4 o'clock this afternoon. He was expected back in Manila in time for the traditional New Year's reception.

President Macapagal today called upon the people to assume an attitude of confidence and hope as they face the New Year.

In a New Year message to the people the President pointed out that "our sweat and toil today will enable our country to attain her goal of development and growth in the near future and thus bring about a better life for all our people."

The Chief Executive stressed that “the beginning of the new year should provide us with an excellent vantage point for looking over the events of the past and looking forward to what the future will bring.”

“Last year was a year of sacrifice on the part of our people, sacrifice in order that this coming year, as well as all others to follow, might be more fruitful than the past one,” he added. “We may have passed through moments of inconvenience and difficulty, but they were essential stepping stones to the progress and prosperity our nation is destined to enjoy.

Following is the full text of the President’s New Year message:

“Beloved Countrymen:

“The beginning of the New Year should provide us with an excellent vantage point for looking over the events of the past and looking forward to what the future will bring. Last year was a year of sacrifice on the part of our people, sacrifice in order that this coming year, as well as all others to follow, might be more fruitful than the past one. We may have passed through moments of inconvenience and difficulty, but they were essential stepping stones to the progress and prosperity our nation is destined to enjoy.

“As we face the year 1964, let us assume an attitude of confidence and hope. This year will also demand much from the people in terms of sacrifice and patience. But let us hope that all this will not be for naught. Let it be said that our sweat and toil today will enable our country to attain her goal of development and growth in the near future and thus bring about a better life for all our people.

“My wife and family join me in extending to you and your loved ones our every wish for your happiness and comfort in the coming year.”

**January 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal and the First Lady held today the traditional New Year’s Day reception at the Palace.

Among those who called on the First Couple were members of Congress led by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, members of the Cabinet headed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, members of the Philippine judiciary, chiefs of diplomatic missions and their ladies, other ranking officials of the executive branch of the government, general officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines led by General Alfredo Santos, members of the Board of Regents and deans of the University of the Philippines headed by President Carlos P. Romulo, representatives of private universities, colleges, and schools, veterans organizations, chambers of commerce and industries, civic organizations, members of the local and foreign press, radio, TV, and motion pictures, and the general public.

In an exchange of toasts with the members of the diplomatic corps, the President expressed the hope that the year 1964 will bring to all the peoples of the world a greater measure of love and human understanding as a factor in human relations, especially towards the common goals of freedom and justice.

The President said that with the advances in science and technology, with their ability for progress and destruction, it would be folly to pursue national aspirations through violence and hatred when they could be achieved more through peace, cooperation, and understanding.

In brief remarks as acting dean of the diplomatic corps, Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak hailed the President for “your sincere efforts to help in the stabilization of international peace and security by working for better cooperation and genuine understanding” among the neighboring countries in Asia. He cited the Chief Executive’s role in the birth of Maphilindo, which, the Indonesian Ambassador said, was a fulfillment of an old dream of many Asian leaders like Dr. Jose Rizal.

Ambassador Pamontjak expressed the hope, on behalf of his colleagues in the diplomatic corps, that the President's understanding, in the interest of peace, justice, and security of Asia be blessed with success in the coming years.

After the traditional reception, the President inducted Vice Mayor-elect Herminio Astorga and 11 elected Liberal councilors of Manila.

The inducted councilors were Jose Sembrano, Martin Isidro, and Cesar Lucero, Jr., of the first district; Leonardo B. Fugoso, Ambrosio Lorenzo, Jr., and Alfonso Mendoza, Jr., of the second district; Sergio H. Loyola, Mariano Magsalin, Eduardo Quintos III, and Avelino Villacorta of the third district, and Jose Villanueva of the fourth district.

Present during the induction ceremonies held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall were the First Lady, Mayor Antonio Villegas, and immediate members of the families and close friends of the inductees.

In the afternoon the President attended Mayor Villegas' inaugural ceremonies at the City Hall Triangle of Liberty during which the Chief Executive administered the oath to the second elective mayor of the city.

**January 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, on the first official working day of the year spent most of his time working on pending state papers.

He took time out in the morning to swear in Eddie Ilarde as member of the Pasay City Council. Ilarde was an official Liberal Party candidate in Pasay City in the last elections.

The oath-taking ceremony, held in the President's study, was witnessed by Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and the Councilor's immediate relatives, including his wife, Mrs. Sylvia Arrastia-Ilarde, their eldest son Dino, mother Agapita U. Ilarde and an aunt, Nieves Aguila.

After inducting the new Pasay City councilor, the President conferred with Secretary Hechanova on some pending papers.

He also saw some of the Malacañang officials in connection with some papers.

The President wanted to clear his desk of pending state papers in preparation for his scheduled trip tomorrow for Iloilo where he will induct Governor-elect Rafael Palmares.

In the evening the President saw Press Secretary Leoncio R. Paruñgao, Jr.

**January 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal sailed for Iloilo this morning aboard the Philippine Navy ship RPS*Rajah Soliman* to attend ceremonies marking the inauguration of Gov. Rafael Palmares at his hometown of Passi tomorrow. The navy destroyer escort bearing the President lifted anchor at 11:15 o'clock this morning in Manila Bay.

The Chief Executive was seen off by the First Lady, daughter, Gloria, Justice Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Land Tenure Administrator Jose Espino, and Gov. Corazon Espino of Nueva Vizcaya.

The President is scheduled to arrive in Iloilo City early tomorrow morning from where he will take a special coach of the Philippine Railway Company to Passi some 60 kilometers from the city.

Early this morning the President and the First Lady, with their daughter, Gloria, headed the list of honor guests at the inauguration of the Overseas Bank of Manila on Rosario Street.

From the bank, they went to the Funeraria Paz on Recto Avenue to view the remains of Associate Immigration Commissioner Marcial Rañola, who died in Taipeh last week.

Then they proceeded to the Navy landing on Roxas Boulevard where the President boarded a Navy launch for the *Rajah Soliman* anchored some distance inside the breakwater.

**January 4.**—THE President today said there has been confusion about what he actually promised in the 1961 campaign because promises were attributed to him which he did not make. He also renewed his appeal for sobriety and judicious conduct of government affairs, and he asked for an end to the campaign of hatred and animosity that would only redound to the detriment of the people.

The Chief Executive made the statements in an extemporaneous address during the induction of Gov. Rafael Palmares of Iloilo.

The President sailed to Iloilo to swear in the new Iloilo governor and other provincial officials. He arrived in Iloilo at 8:15 o'clock in the morning and was met by a large crowd led by Executive Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and Gov. Palmares. Reps. Pedro Trono, Jose Aldeguer, Ramon Tabiana, and Ricardo Ladrado of Iloilo were also on hand to greet the President at the pier.

On arrival at the pier, the President was given military honors by a composite battalion of the AFP and Constabulary units in the City. Afterward the President led a motorcade to the nearby railroad station where he boarded the train *Common Man* en route to Passi, some 60 kilometers away.

The President and his party arrived in Passi at 10 a.m. He went direct to the plaza on foot with a large crowd which gathered at the railroad station to greet him.

A civic and military parade was held as the Chief Executive and other provincial and municipal officials took their seats on an improvised platform. The President then administered the oath of office to all municipal mayors, vice-mayors, and councilors of Iloilo.

After inducting the provincial and local officials, the President inducted Governor Palmares as the new provincial executive of Iloilo.

Later the President delivered his brief address. He was introduced by Secretary Hechanova.

The President and his party left Iloilo bound for Manila at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon. They were expected back in Malacañang tomorrow, Sunday.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1964). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 60 (1), iii-vii.

## **President's Week in Review: February 2-8, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**February 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent the day in Malacañang going over a pile of pending state papers, including the curriculum vitae of prospective appointees to different key positions in the government, particularly in the judiciary.

The President also had a series of conferences with some assistants who consulted him on matters pertaining to their respective departments.

Waking up early this morning, the President spent some time reading the Sunday papers. After breakfast, he repaired to his private study and started working on papers.

Later in the afternoon he received several officials with whom he conferred individually. Among the officials were Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Administrator Eleuterio Adevos of the Office of Economic Coordination, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes, Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio, and Chairman Conrado Manalansan of the Sugar Quota Administration.

In the evening the President went down to the Palace chapel and heard mass. Also at the mass were the First Lady, the Macapagal children, and Lcdr. David Cruz, junior presidential aide.

**February 3.**—THIS morning the President received officials of his home-province of Pampanga led by Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno and Vice-Gov. Angel Macapagal, who appraised him of some problems of their province. He also met with Vice-Gov. Ben Gomez of Negros Occidental on matters affecting the latter's province.

In the afternoon the President inducted the newly-elected officers of the Press Photographers of the Philippines. Inducted were Ben Cruz, president; Ramon Vecina, 1st vice-president; Antonio Lopez, 2nd vice-president; Luis Perez, secretary; Fred Navales, treasurer; and Luis Garcia, Fred Cruz, Manuel Bulaong, Elpidio Rustia, Renato Lopez, Amado Suba, and Alejandro Abril, board members.

The PPP presented a resolution to the President endorsing acting Press-Secretary Virgilio Reyes as permanent press secretary on the ground that he had been a newspaperman of "good and long standing." The press photographers said that the acting Press Secretary understands the problems of the press and enjoys the confidence of his fellow-craftsmen.

The President also received newsmen covering the defense department with whom he had an exchange of impressions on current local issues.

President Macapagal met this evening with the National Security Council on the implications to Philippine security of France's recognition of Communist China and the establishment of the Federation of Malaysia. The meeting, the first since he assumed office, was convoked by the Chief Executive on the recommendation of Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.

The President today appointed former Secretary of Finance Fernando E. V. Sison as chairman of the board of directors of the Manila Railroad Company, and former Gov. Dominador de Asis of Camarines Norte as general manager.

Sison will take over from Paulino T. Cases as board chairman, while De Asis will replace Pedro de Peralta as general manager.

**February 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today inducted, former Finance Secretary Fernando E. V. Sison as chairman of the board of the Manila Railroad Company, vice Paulino T. Casas. Among those who witnessed the induction



ceremony in the Presidents study this noon were OEC Administrator Eleuterio Adevosio and provincial and municipal officials.

Sison gave assurance that he would do his best to improve conditions in the railroad firm, when told by the Chief Executive that he would have a difficult job ahead.

Earlier in the morning the President received 17 provincial governors and eight city mayors who took up with him matters concerning their respective localities, including appointments to provincial and municipal positions.

Gov. Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna led a delegation from his province which complained to the President that some 1,000 hectares of land in Bay were erroneously included in a proclamation issued by former President Garcia reserving portions of land in Laguna as part of the Mount Makiling Park. San Luis said that the land being sought to be excluded from the reservation is planted to coconut, lansones, and citrus trees.

The President directed the Malacañang legal division to look into the complaint and to report to him.

In the afternoon the President inducted the newly-elected officers of the Pulp and Paper Manufacturers Association. Sworn in by the Chief Executive were Eduardo Cojuangco, Jr., president; Lim Se Keng, 1st vice-president; Dr. Amando Clemente, 2nd vice-president; Benito Pascual, treasurer; P.M. Ticornell, board secretary; P. Gozun, executive secretary; and James L. Chiongbian, Vicente C. Santos, Alejandro Ty, Leon Cu Unjieng, and Col. S. T. Villa, members of the board of directors.

After the induction ceremony the President received Rep. Venancio Ziga of Albay and Sen. Tecla San Andres-Ziga, who requested government support for the expansion of the ceramics pilot plant in Tiwi, Albay. They also showed the President samples of the plant's ceramics products which included coffee cups and ash trays which can compare favorably with imported ones.

The President promised the Zigas P50,000 from the NACIDA bank. The President also received officials of the Philippine Chamber of Industries headed by Hilarion Henares, Jr., president, with whom he discussed problems affecting the industrial community, particularly tariffs and taxes. The PCI officials thanked the President for the increase in tariff rates on imported merchandises which, they said, will give added protection to local industries.

The President, in turn, thanked the chamber for the cooperation it has so far extended to the Administration's socio-economic program, saying that he is banking on their continued, support for the country's economic growth.

The other PCI officials who called on the Chief Executive were Antonio C. Delgado, 1st vice-president; Jesus T. Tanchangco, 2nd vice-president; Augusto Cesar Espiritu, director-treasurer; Froilan M. Bacongan, executive secretary; Salvador Araneta, Federico O. Borromeo, Mariano C. Gana, George T. Mercado, Aurelio Montinola, Jr., Leonides S. Virata, Gaudencio Mañalac and Mariano V. del Rosario, members of the board of directors. They were accompanied by J. P. Marcelo, past president.

Other evening callers were Rep. Dominador Tan of Leyte, Caloocan City Mayor Macario Asistio, and a delegation from Batangas headed by Sen. Maria Kalaw Katigbak, who consulted him on local matters.

President Macapagal today reprimanded an assistant fiscal of Baguio City found guilty of assaulting a truck driver. The Chief Executive noted out the administrative penalty to Assistant Fiscal Dionisio Claridad for allegedly manhandling and injuring Antonio Niñalaga in Baguio.

The case was the result of an incident which took place last Nov. 3, 1961, in Baguio City when Niñalaga, then a truck driver, rammed the left rear side of the fiscal's car and sped away.

Claridad, angered by the incident, pursued the car and mauled the driver.

In an investigation conducted by the Department of Justice, it was found out that Claridad was prompted to act as he did because of the profane language and insults hurled at him by Niñalaga, who was drunk at the time, in the presence of Claridad's children.

**February 5.**—THIS morning the President received World Lightweight champion Carlos Ortiz of Puerto Rico and challenger Flash Elorde of the Philippines, who paid him a courtesy call. The two boxers were scheduled to meet on a title fight on February 15 at the Rizal football stadium under the sponsorship of the Community Chest.

With them in calling on the Chief Executive were their respective managers, Bill Dally and Lope Serreal. They were accompanied to Malacañang by General Alfredo M. Santos, Budget Commissioner Faustina Sy-Changco, and Crisologo Ramirez, 1st vice-president, board member, and executive director, respectively, of the Community Chest.

The President also met with members of Congress on matters affecting their respective districts.

President Macapagal today met with his Cabinet on problems of rice and prices which he will also take up with the Council of State tomorrow noon.

Before proceeding to the Cabinet meeting late this afternoon, the Chief Executive held a formal press conference with newsmen covering the Palace.

The President then had luncheon at Malacañang with the officers and members of the Pampanga Rotarians and their ladies.

Later this morning the President swore in two newly appointed officials of government corporations. Inducted by the President in separate ceremonies at his study were former Camarines Norte Governor Dominador A. Asis as General Manager of the Manila Railroad Company, and Jose Calderon as General Manager of the National Marketing Corporation. Asis replaced Pedro de Peralta, while Calderon succeeded Jovino Lorenzo.

Until his appointment to the top NAMARCO post, Calderon was a member of its board of directors. He is also president of the Maremco Mineral Corporation and chairman of the Philippine Petroleum Association.

Present at the induction rites were immediate members of the inductees' families and officials of the two corporations.

**February 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today declared February 19 as a special public holiday throughout the Philippines. The day marks the birth anniversary of Jose Abad Santos, jurist, patriot, and martyr, who was executed by the Japanese during the occupation for refusing to serve the Japanese.

In his proclamation the President paid tribute to the jurists heroism, saying "his martyrdom will remain forever as an inspiring symbol of the purest ideals of the Filipino people."

This morning the President also issued a proclamation declaring a 15-day period of national mourning for General Emilio Aguinaldo, who died early this morning at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

President Macapagal met today with the Council of State on problems of rice and prices. The meeting lasted from 12:15 o'clock in the afternoon

Among those present were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio Villareal, Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado Cayco, Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Justice Secretary Salvador L. Marino, Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano Education Secretary Alejandro Rocas, NEC Chairman Sixto K. Roxas III, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Health Secretary Floro Dabu, Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes, Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda, Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Senators Arturo Tolentino and

Lorenzo Tañada, Budget Commissioner Faustmo Sy-Changco, Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, Majority Floorleader Justiniano Montano, Cavite Governor Delfin Montano, and Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes.

The Council of State agreed today to recommend enactment of special legislation authorizing the Rice and Corn Administration to import and distribute rice to meet an expected shortage this year. The agreement was reached at a four and a half hour Council of State meeting attended by the highest leaders of the land.

With President Macapagal as chairman, the Council decided to recommend the emergency measure to both Houses of Congress. The law would be in effect this year only.

At the same time, the Council set up a nine-man sub-committee, to be headed by Chairman Sixto K. Roxas III of the National Economic Council, to formulate a long-range, rice policy and to study and make recommendations on the general problem of prices which was not taken up by the Council for lack of time.

The subcommittee will be composed of three members representing the Administration, three members representing the Senate, and three members representing the House of Representatives.

The general policy agreed upon was that the government would endeavor to ensure an adequate national supply of rice at all times at a price that is within the reach of the consumer, on the one hand, and provide adequate incentives to domestic producers, on the other hand.

Other features of the special measure are the removal of the ceiling price to purchase palay, on the part of the RCA, removal of the ceiling price at which the RCA can sell rice, and the elimination of the word "ordinary", in specifying the kind of palay that may be purchased.

After the Council of State meeting this afternoon, the President repaired to his study where he received Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak, who delivered to him a letter from President Sukarno. The Indonesian Ambassador returned yesterday from Jakarta.

The President then received Mayor Sofia Eltanal of Zamboanguita, Zamboanga del Sur, who sought the release of funds for urgent public works projects in her town. The lady mayor was accompanied to Malacañang by Public Service Commissioner Enrique Medina.

Later the President conferred with OEC Administrator Eleuterio Adevosio on the expansion of the overseas fleet of the National Development Company.

Other evening callers were Secretary Feliciano and Forestry Director Apolonio Rivera, who took up with the President matters concerning the bureau and PAGCOM Chairman Conrado Cajator.

President Macapagal ordered today a 15-day period of national mourning, as he expressed the nation's "profound sorrow" over the death of General Emilio Aguinaldo early this morning at the Veterans Memorial Hospital in Quezon City.

'The revolutionary leader and president of the first Philippine Republic had been in a coma following a heart attack five days ago.

At the same time, the President directed Assistant Executive Secretary Calixto Zaldivar, together with Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and Ambassador Manuel Zamora, to represent him in making funeral arrangements with Aguinaldo's family.

The Chief Executive instructed Secretary Zaldivar to make known to the bereaved family his desire that the General be accorded a state funeral, and that his remains be made to lie in state in Malacañang where they may be viewed by the public.

The President created a special committee chairmanned by Secretary Zaldivar and with some immediate relative of the General's family among the members, which will finalize plans for a state burial. The special committee will meet in Malacañang tomorrow.

In another move this morning, the President ordered the renaming of Camp, Murphy to Camp Aguinaldo.

The President issued today an administrative order creating a Muslim Pilgrimage Committee which will supervise the annual Filipino Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca. The order revokes Administrative Order No. 318 issued on February 16, 1960.

The committee will be composed of Justice Secretary Salvador L. Mariño as chairman with the following as members: Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Rep. Salih Ututalum, Acting Customs Commissioner, Jose. B. Lingad, Minister Juan C. Dionisio, Health Undersecretary for Medical Services Clemente S. Gatmaitan, PIA Director-General Armand Fabella, and Associate Commissioner on National Integration Putli Amilbangsa.

**February 7.**—THE President had his hands full earlier in the day when he received 2,167 "Common Man's Day" callers who flocked to Malacañang from 8:45 o'clock in the morning up to 1:35 p.m.

The President was assisted in receiving the general public by the First Lady and his regular "Common Man's Day" staff.

In the course of attending to his numerous callers, the President took time out to induct the following, officers of the Philippine Chamber of Wood Industries: Lorenzo Sarmiento, president; David Puzon, vice-president for northern Luzon; Gaudencio S. Manalac, vice-president for Mindanao; Rosauro Dongallc, executive vice-president; and Florencio Tamesis, Arturo Say, Jose de la Rosa, Quirino Gonzales, Canuto Pipiangco, Augusto Gamboa, Teodoro Araneta, George Tirador, Lupiemo Campo, Teodoro Julianio, Clemente Roxas, and Jose Puyat, Jr., directors.

The President motored this afternoon to Kawit, Cavite, to view the remains of General Emilio Aguinaldo, who died yesterday morning at the Veterans Memorial Hospital in Quezon City. The body of the revolutionary hero and president of the first Philippine Republic was taken from the hospital to his historic house in Kawit yesterday afternoon.

With the President in paying respects to the late Grand Old Man of the Philippine revolution was the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal.

Earlier this afternoon the President received the credentials of Monsignor Carlo Martini, newly designated Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines. Monsignor Martini succeeded Monsignor Salvatore Siino, who died in Rome last year.

Among those present during the presentation ceremonies held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall were Cabinet members led by Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado D. Cayco, church dignitaries headed by Rufino J. Cardinal Santos, and members of religious organizations.

**February 8.**—THIS morning the President and the First Lady attended the formal opening of the first French industrial and cultural exposition at the National Library building at the Luneta and at the Philamlife building on United Nations Avenue.

The President also received officials of the French exposition, who called on him in Malacañang accompanied by French Minister of Industry Maurict Bokanowski and Ambassador Emile de Curton.

President Macapagal departed this afternoon for Phnom Penh for a six-day state visit to Cambodia and a diplomatic rendezvous at the summit with Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaysia on the Malayan crisis.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, military aides, and. newsmen boarded the Philippines Air Lines *PI-C 776 Viscount* for the Cambodian capital at 1:10 p.m., following a brief and simple send-off ceremony at the airport attended by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, members of the Cabinet, and the diplomatic corps.

Also present at the airport riles were the Macapagal children, Cielo, Arturo, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr., who were accompanied by their grandmother, Mrs. Irene Macaraeg.

With the First Couple in the plane were Acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Lopez; Brig. Gen. Victor Dizon, senior aide; Dr. Francisco Tangco, the President's private physician; and a group of Manila newsmen, including Francisco de Leon of the Manila Chronicle.

Before his departure the President signed Administrative Order 70, designating Acting Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar as government caretaker during his absence.

President Macapagal has issued an executive order designating the executive committee for the development of the Quezon Memorial, Luneta, and other national parks as the National Parks Development Committee, Malacañang announced today.

The President signed the order shortly before his departure for a five-day state visit to Cambodia this afternoon. The executive committee had been created by the President in January last year.

Composed of a chairman, members, and an executive director to be designated by the President, the committee shall take charge of the development of national parks, especially the Quezon Memorial Park and the Luneta Park. It shall synchronize and coordinate its activities with the Parks and Wildlife and the Commission on Parks and Wildlife for the speedy and effective development of national parks.

Empowered to create such sub-committees, as it may deem necessary to carry out its duties, the committee was also authorized to call upon any government office or agency for any assistance that it may need.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **Official Week in Review: February 9 – February 15, 1964**

**February 9.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was conferred today in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, the honorary degree of doctor of laws and political science by the law school of the University of Cambodia as he started the second day of his scheduled five-day state visit to that country.

The President received the honor in a colorful ceremony at the University campus at which he was enthusiastically received by cheering students and faculty members.

The honorary degree was conferred in recognition of the Chief Executive's outstanding contribution to the cause of world peace and understanding.

In his speech accepting the degree, President Macapagal called on Asian nations to collaborate with one another for the attainment of common goals in the spirit of brotherhood and friendship. He said Asian nations could work closely even while espousing divergent political views.

In this spirit the President appealed for understanding by neutralist Cambodia of the Philippines' pro-Western and anti-Communist position in the current Cold War struggle.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, military aides, and newsmen, arrived in Phnom Penh yesterday for a five-day visit during which he would confer with Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman on the Malaysia crisis.

Cambodian Prince Norodom Sihanouk led ranking government dignitaries and numbers of the diplomatic corps in welcoming the visiting Filipino Chief of State at the airport.

The route taken by the President and the First Lady from the airport to the Khemarin Palace was lined by enthusiastic welcomers waving "Long Live Macapagal" banners and multi-colored balloons.

The Macapagals had a private dinner with the Cambodian prince at the Khemarin Palace, after which they made a brief tour of the city and viewed a performance by the Royal Cambodian Ballet.

**February 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal expressed the hope that his talks with Malaysia Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman will be successful "for the sake of the countries concerned as well as of all the countries in the region."

President Macapagal made the statement in his response to the remarks of the Cambodia Prince during the state dinner honoring him and the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, at the Chamcar Mon, Prince Sihanouk's residence in Phnom Penh. The dinner was tendered last night on the eve of the Macapagal-Rahman meeting scheduled to be held at the Khemarin Palace, where the President and his party were staying.

The Philippine Chief Executive also took occasion to thank Prince Sihanouk for the enthusiasm, cordiality, and lavish attention he and his party had been accorded on their arrival in Phnom Penh. He said, "Tonight I find myself wondering whether all the things happening here are a reality and not just an exciting dream."

President Macapagal added that he has found it to be a sincere desire of the Cambodian nation to progress in peace, to pursue its own destiny as a nation, and to be on close and friendly ties with everybody with similarly friendly disposition toward it." He also paid tribute to Prince Sihanouk and his "alluring national philosophy, and the progress being enjoyed by Cambodia under his leadership. He said that this observation is borne by the numerous exhibits he and his party saw at the exhibition, depicting Cambodia progress under Sihanouk's leadership and, largely, through Cambodian effort.

The Cambodian Prince, during the state dinner, said that the enthusiastic welcome given President Macapagal and party "furnishes conclusive clue of the budding friendship, with a promise of a fruitful cooperation mounted on

mutual confidence and loyalty.” He also expressed hope for a fruitful meeting between Macapagal and Rahman, and said he was confident that their meeting and the ministerial talks in Bangkok, would lead to another summit meeting between the Maphilindo countries, and the final settlement of their differences to the mutual satisfaction of the three Nations involved.

The state dinner was followed by a ball during which Prince Sihanouk played the saxophone, clarinet, and accordion with the orchestra. He also crooned French and other songs all to the delight of Filipinos and other guests, including members of the local diplomatic corps. The ball lasted up to 2:30 a.m. The ball ended with Prince Sihanouk and Princess Monique giving a joint vocal rendition of *Dahil Sa Iyo*.

The bilateral talks between President Macapagal and Malaysia Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman started promptly at 4 p.m. today (5 p.m. Manila time) behind closed door. The conference is being held inside a lunch room of the Khemarin Palace, where Philippine Ambassador Narciso Reyes and Mohammad Ben Ghazali of Malaysia, who assisted the who Asian leaders during today’s talks.

Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, who is scheduled to participate at the beginning of the conference, failed to arrived from Bangkok by the time, the conversations started. Lopez is expected to arrive tonight from Thailand where he attended the tri-partite ministerial meeting between representatives of the Maphilindo member countries.

The meeting between President Macapagal and Rahman began minutes after the Tunku, accompanied by Prince Sihanouk, arrived in the Khemarin Palace, after making a courtesy call on Queen Kossamak Nearireath.

Following an exchange of amenities during which a group of photographers and movie cameraman were allowed to take shots of the three Asian leaders, President Macapagal and the Tunku proceeded to the conference room, while Prince Sihanouk withdrew and left the Palace although invited to join in the talks.

**February 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal and Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaysia continued their talks this morning at breakfast at the Khemarin Palace. The meeting was held behind closed doors.

The Tunku was accompanied to the Khemarin closed door breakfast conference by Minister (without portfolio) Kaw Khai Boh. North Romeo (Sabah), Gov. Datu Mustapha, and Sabah Minister Donald Stephens.

They had arrived at the Palace two minutes before 8:00 a.m. and were met at the lobby by President Macapagal, together with Philippine Ambassadors Narciso Reyes (to Indonesia) and Modesto Farolan (to South Vietnam, also accredited to Phnom Penh). All of them together proceeded directly to the breakfast conference room.

Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez came in at 8:05 a.m. from Bangkok and rushed to the Palace, arriving there ten minutes later. in time to participate in the conversations.

Accompanied by Prince Sihanouk of Cambodia, the two leaders afterwards flew to Siemreap (Angkor) for an overnight stay, during which they resumed talks at 11:00 a.m. and at every other opportunity thereafter while visiting the ruins of nearby Angkor Wat.

The visit to the ancient ruins was climaxed by presentation in the evening of classic Cambodian dances on the illuminated terraces of Angkor.

President Macapagal and Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaysia had conversations behind closed doors for one hour yesterday afternoon.

After the conference two Chiefs of State held preliminary talks “in atmosphere of utmost cordiality,” according to Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes.

Reyes said Malaysian Permanent Secretary of Foreign Affairs Ghazali Bin Shafie and Philippine Ambassador (to Indonesia) Narciso Reyes reported on the Bangkok ministerial meeting since the foreign ministers of Malaysia and the Philippines had not yet reported to their chiefs of state.

President Macapagal today ordered the release of P300,000 for the relief of fire victims in Davao City. He issued the order from Phnom Penh upon learning of the conflagration which razed the commercial district of that southern metropolis yesterday.

The Chief Executive was informed of the fire in a cable dispatched by Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar to Cambodia where the President is on a state visit.

**February 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaysia, and Prince Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia returned to Phnom Penh this morning after an overnight visit to Siemreap.

The three Asian leaders, together with ranking officials of their respective countries, landed at Pochentong Airport, some nine kilometers from Phnom Penh, aboard a Royal Air Cambodia Skymaster at 10:40 a.m. after 40 minutes flight from Siemreap.

President Macapagal and Prime Minister Rahman promptly held their final meeting over lunch, just before the Malaysian leader left for Kuala Lumpur.

The scheduled press conference at 11 a.m. where the foreign policy spokesmen of President Macapagal and the Tunku were expected to announce the outcome of the bilateral talks was postponed to after lunch in view of the two leaders' decision to hold a luncheon conference.

Later this day President Macapagal and Prince Sihanouk signed a joint statement at the Chanchaya Hall of the Royal Palace on the Philippine President's state visit to Cambodia.

The signing ceremony was followed immediately by the conferment on President Macapagal of the "Grand Collier de L'Ordre National de L'Independence" by Prince Sihanouk and by an address of President Macapagal to the Cambodia people at a mass meeting in front of the Royal Palace.

President and Mrs. Macapagal tendered a state dinner at the Royal Palace in the evening in honor of Queen Kossamak Nearineath and Prince Sihanouk.

Yesterday's visit to Siemreap was topped off with a presentation last night of colorful Cambodian classical dances on the illuminated terraces of Angkor Wat Among Prince Sihanouk's guests, aside from President Macapagal and Prime Minister Rahman, were actor Kurt Jurgens and his wife.

President Macapagal and his party are tentatively scheduled to depart from Phnom Penh 9 a.m. tomorrow Thursday, (10 a.m., Manila Time) arriving Manila four and a half hours later.

**February 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal heads for home today after a triumphal four-day visit to Cambodia—a story-book land of fantasy and enchantment.

The President and the First Lady and their entourage, led by Secretary of Foreign Affairs Salvador P. Lopez, took off from the Pochentong Airport of Phnom Penh at 10 a.m. arriving in Manila at about 3 p.m. today (4:00 p.m., Manila Time).

The first couple honored Queen Kossamak Nearineath and Prince Sihanouk at a state dinner last night at the Palais Da Government, winding up the Cambodian visit.



Earlier, President Macapagal and Prince Sihanouk signed a joint statement in a formal ceremony at the royal palace where they “reaffirmed the conviction that Asian problems needed Asian solutions as conceived and developed for practical application by Asian leaders by themselves in an atmosphere of freedom and dignity.”

They also reaffirmed support of the principle that all states are on an equal footing in international relations, and expressed solidarity for defense, peace, and freedom.

A few minutes later the President received the decoration of *Grand Collier de L'Ordre National Independence* from Prince Sihanouk.

Then President Macapagal addressed a mass meeting of an estimated 100,000 persons in front of the royal palace. The crowd cheered as the President thanked the Cambodian people for their hospitality and friendliness; and Prince Sihanouk for arranging the meeting between President Macapagal and Malaysian Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman which, he said, had been productive of good results.

President Macapagal said that Prince Sihanouk’s fruitful participation in resolving the problems of nations in this region “emphasizes the fact that we in Asia are brothers and sisters and members of one family.” He added that their differences in political outlook cannot be stronger than the bonds of race, culture, history, geography, and aspirations that bind the Asians together.

President Macapagal returned this afternoon from Phnom Penh, Cambodia, convinced that his five-day state visit to Cambodia had resulted in the normalization of relations between the Philippines and the Federation of Malaysia and the strengthening of friendly ties with the host country.

The President landed at the Manila International Airport at 4:15 p.m. aboard a Philippine Air Lines PI-C770 Viscount after a four and a half hour flight from Phnom Penh.

With the Chief Executive in the plane were the First Lady, Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Gov. Benigno Aquino, Jr., of Tarlac, Brig. Gen. Victor Dizon (senior aide), Civil Aeronautics Administrator Vicente Rivera, Jr., Col. Benjamin Tolentino (commander of the Presidential Guards Battalion), security agents, and newsmen.

A small crowd, composed of government dignitaries, members of the diplomatic corps, and government employees, welcomed the presidential party. The welcomers were headed by Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar, Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon, and Msgr. Carlo Martini, papal nuncio and doyen of the diplomatic corps.

Zaldivar, who acted as government caretaker in the absence of the President, escorted the Chief Executive to the reviewing stand from where the latter reviewed his honor guards, a contingent of Armed Forces troops.

Following the military rites, the President greeted his welcomers and then mounted a platform from which he read his report to the nation on the results of his foreign sojourn.

He described his mission a success and predicted that henceforth relations between the Philippines and Malaysia would be restored to normal while that with Cambodia would be invigorated.

The President, in his speech which he delivered in part in Pilipino, also thanked Administration leaders for their smooth handling of government affairs in his absence.

**February 14.**—THIS morning the Chief Executive held his regular “Common Man’s Day” reception at Malacañang. He received his callers from 9:15 a.m. to 1:35 p.m.

Before receiving his visitors the President escorted the bier of the late General Emilio Aguinaldo whose remains were moved to the Manila Cathedral at 9 a.m. today from Malacañang where it had lain in state for three days.

In the afternoon Hilarion Henares, Jr., presidential adviser on economic affairs briefed the President on current economic issues. Henares was accompanied Elidoro de la Rosa, executive director of the Civil Aeronautics Board, who also briefed the President on Philippine air traffic.

President Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker this evening at the inauguration of the new Manila Overseas Press Club site at the Admiral Apartments on Aldecoa Street in Ermita. The President was accompanied by the First Lady.

**February 15.**—THIS morning the President led government leaders in eulogizing General Emilio Aguinaldo at the necrological services held in the session hall of the House of Representatives.

In his oration the President extolled the late revolutionary hero and president of the first Philippine Republic as one of the greatest Filipino heroes of the Malay race, second only to Dr. Jose Rizal.

Other speakers were Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, and Supreme Court Justice Sabiño Padilla.

With the President at the necrological services was the First Lady.

Also present were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, former President Carlos P. Garcia, members of the diplomatic corps, and other ranking officials of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government.

President Macapagal met at dinner today with the leaders of Congress on his recent bilateral talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman and his visit to Cambodia.

Present at the Malacañang dinner conference were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal; Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, chairman of the Senate Foreign relations committee; Rep. Godofredo Ramos of Aklan, chairman of the House foreign relations committee; and the following foreign relations committee members of both Houses:

Sens. Estanislao Fernandez, Maria Kalaw Katigbak, Raul Manglapus, Gil J. Puyat, Francisco Rodrigo, and Jose Roy; and Reps. Manuel Cases of La Union, Miguel Cuenco of Cebu, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao del Norte, Ramon Mitra of Mountain Province, Felicísimo Ocampo of Nueva Ecija, Carlos Tan of Leyte, Lorenzo Teves of Tarlac, and Jovito Salonga of Rizal.

With the President in briefing the congressional leaders was Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez.

In the afternoon the President was guest of honor and speaker at the awarding of certificates to 489 civil service eligibles for chiefs of police.

The certificates were presented to the awardees by Civil Service Commissioner Abelardo Subido in ceremonies held at the PC Officers Clubhouse in Camp Crame, Quezon City.

*Source: Adamson University Library*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1964). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 60(7), liii-lvii.

## **President's Week in Review: February 16-22, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**February 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led national officials, veterans groups, and members of the diplomatic corps today in taking the mortal remains of the late General Emilio Aguinaldo to their final resting place.

The remains of the revolutionary general and first President of the short-lived Philippines Republic were interred at high noon at the backyard of the Aguinaldo residence in Kawit, Cavite.

The historic residence is now the property of the Philippine government. The general had donated it to the government, and formally handed the deed of donation to President Macapagal when the nation celebrated Independence Day on June 12 last year.

The home has since been turned into a national shrine. It was on the balcony of the residence where the First Philippine Republic was proclaimed on June 12, 1896.

The President left Malacañang for Kawit, Cavite, at 9:15 this morning accompanied by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria. They arrived at the centuries old Kawit parish church in time for the 10 o'clock requiem mass said in memory of the departed general.

President and Mrs. Macapagal were met by Rep. Justiniano Montano and Gov. Delfin Montano of Cavite, Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, and members of the general's family.

After the mass, His Eminence Rufino Cardinal Santos, headed the funeral cortege.

Military honors, including the playing of the national anthem, were rendered at the churchyard before the bier was placed on the caisson.

President and Mrs. Macapagal, Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, Senate President and Mrs. Ferdinand Marcos, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and immediate members of the Aguinaldo family walked behind the riderless horse that followed the caisson.

Among others who were at the mass and in the funeral procession were Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldívar, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes, Sens. Alejandro Almendras, and Estanislao Fernandez, Reps. Jose B. Laurel, Jr., and Ramon Mitra, US Ambassador and Mrs. William E. Stevenson and other members of the diplomatic corps, Veterans Federation of the Philippines President Simeon Medalla, Presidential Assistant on Community Development Mrs. Milagros R. Abella, provincial and municipal officials of Cavite, and ranking officials of the Armed Forces.

Preceding the caisson were representatives of various veterans groups, with their tattered flags used in the revolution.

A jet fighter squadron of the Philippine Air Force roared overhead as the cortege approached the burial grounds.

At high noon provincial officials of Cavite headed by Gov. Montano placed the casket into the tomb, while at 21-gun salute was booming in the distance and a couple of buglers were sounding the solemn taps.

After the funeral the President and the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria, motored to Tagaytay City where they had their lunch. They rested for sometimes at the Tagaytay Vista Lodge before motoring back to Manila.

President Macapagal motored to the National Press Club building in the evening to be the guest of honor and principal speaker at the traditional Gridiron Night which was staged in connection with the observance of Press Week. The President was expected to be “roasted” and, he in turn, was expected to take it in a true sporting manner.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation declaring Monday, February 17, as a special public holiday in Ilocos Sur, in commemoration of the 92nd anniversary of the martyrdom of Father Jose Burgos.

The President wants to give the people of Father Burgos’ birthplace full opportunity to observe the event with appropriate ceremonies; so he issued the proclamation.

**February 17.**—THIS morning the President was guest speaker at the opening ceremonies for the Livestock and Poultry Production Week held at the Bureau of Animal Industry compound in Pandacan. The President was introduced by Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano.

The First Lady officiated at the cutting of the ceremonial ribbon. She was assisted by Mesdames J. Feliciano, I. Pascual, B. Montinola, A. B. Coronel, and T. Capulong.

From the Bureau of Animal Industry, the President and the First Lady dropped in at the GSIS auditorium to greet department under-secretaries, bureau directors, and other officials of the government who are holding a five-day seminar on public administration in connection with the observance of Public Administration Week from February 17 to 22.

In the afternoon the President received an 11-member group of Japanese businessmen headed by Rev. Y. Nakano, president of the International Foundation for Cultural Harmony.

The group discussed with the President the cultivation of cultural and business relations between Japan and the Philippines.

They were accompanied to Malacañang by Rep. Luciano Joson of Mindoro Oriental; Quintin C. Paredes III, secretary-general of the Philippine Federation for Cultivating International Friendship; and Jose K. Villanueva, director of the board of industries.

The Council of State, with President Macapagal as chairman, recommended today favorable congressional action on a proposed appropriation of P40 million to support the National Marketing Corporation (NAMARCO) subsidy program. The recommendation was agreed upon at a 2 ½ hour meeting held at the Malacañang State Dining Hall, starting at 12:30 p.m.

At the meeting:

1. The Council of State agreed that at its next meeting to be held on March 2, I will consider a proposed P50 million operating outlay for the NAMARCO.
2. Speaker Cornelio Villareal reported approval by the House of Representatives of a bill providing for the importation of rice this year only in the event of a shortage in the local supply, and Senate President Ferdinand Marcos reported that the Senate would act “expeditiously” on a similar measure.
3. The President was authorized by the Council of State to go ahead and direct the Philippine ambassador in Bangkok, Modesto Farolan, to sign a purchase contract in exercise of the Philippine government’s option to buy rice there, which is about to expire.

Council members present were Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Speaker Cornelio Villareal, Sen. Eulogio Rodriguez, Sen. Arturo Tolentino. Sen. Fernando Lopez, Sen. Lorenzo Tañada. Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes. General Services Secretary

Duma Sinsuat, Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda, National Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Acting Executive Secretary Calixto Zaldivar, Justice Secretary Salvador Marino, Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes. Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Chansco. Health Secretary Floro Dabu. Education Secretary Alejandro Roces, NEC Chairman Sixto K. Roxas III, Rep. Justiniano Montano, and Gov. Delfin Montano.

**February 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today 12 provincial governors and several delegations of municipal officials who took up with him matters affecting respective localities.

The President attended to the local officials upon his return to Malacañang this morning from the inauguration ceremonies of the Veterans Memorial annex on Arroceros Street in which he was the guest of honor.

At the inaugural rites the President unveiled a marker, while the First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon. The First lady was assisted by Mesdames Elena A. Zaldivar, Cristeta Villavert, and Lourdes Medalla.

In the afternoon the President received Ambassador John M. Addis of the United Kingdom and Ambassador Miguel Teus of Spain. Ambassador Teus took up with the President the proposed celebration of the fourth centenary of the evangelization of the Philippines and the first apparition of the *Sto. Niño* in Cebu. It will also be 400 hundred years in 1965 when Miguel Lopez de Legaspi brought the *Sto. Niño* from Spain.

The Spanish envoy said that since a few months ago work had started on a new Basilica to house the *Sto. Niño*, a cooperative undertaking of the Philippine Catholic hierarchy and the Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines.

In the evening the President presided at a meeting of his Cabinet.

The President formed a three-man' Cabinet committee to study and recommend legislation and whatever else is needed for a more vigorous campaign against smuggling. The action was taken at a three-hour meeting of the Cabinet at which the following moves also were decided:

1. Rehabilitation of the Manila Railroad Company.

2. Grant of authority to the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration. (PVTa) to enter into a management contract with the Philippine Tobacco Flue-Curing and Redrying Corporation for the procurement, redrying, and servicing of locally-grown flue-cured Virginia tobacco during the 1963 Virginia tobacco drying operations, and also to enter into negotiated contracts for the redrying of an additional 5.65 million kilos of Virginia leaf tobacco.

The President formed the three-man anti-smuggling committee after a report was made by PCAPE Chairman Jose B. Lingad on the extent of smuggling activities, the problems that were being encountered in carrying out the campaign, and what steps may be taken under the circumstances.

In view of Lingad's report, the President appointed him, Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, and National Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., as members of a committee that will make a thorough study so that legislative and executive action may be taken toward a relentless and more successful campaign against smuggling.

The President said that priority should be given to the problem of smuggling. He pointed out that it is one of the most serious problems of the nation since it affects revenues and reflects on the enforcement of the laws.

OEC Administrator Eleuterio Adevosio reported on MRR operations, stating that the company was "now in a much better position to make money." He said that 2,000 excess personnel have been removed and expenditures have been reduced. He added that the rehabilitation of the MRR could be the start of a long-planned national railway system.

President Macapagal has proclaimed Monday, February 24, as a special public holiday in Cebu City. The day marks the 27th anniversary of the founding of the city.

The President issued the proclamation to give the people of the city an opportunity to celebrate the event with appropriate ceremonies.

**February 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal flew to Davao City this morning and saw for himself the extent of damage caused by fire in that city recently and the flooded areas in Agusan, Surigao, and Davao provinces. The President was accompanied to the base operations of the Philippine Air Force by the First Lady who saw him off.

The President viewed the flooded areas from aboard the Plane. Later after hearing the reports of the officials concerned, he said the conditions did not appear to warrant declaring a state of public calamity, as suggested by Gov. Vicente Duterte.

Arriving at Bangoy Airport in Davao about 10:40 a.m., the President and his party were met by a big crowd headed by Gov. Duterte and Davao City Mayor Carmelo Porras. From the airport the President visited the fire-ravaged area of the city, and from there proceeded to the Insular Hotel where he met at lunch with provincial and municipal officials on the flood situation.

The President was accompanied during his trip by Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Health Secretary Floro Dabu, Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda, Acting Social Welfare Administrator Jose O. Pelayo, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes, Defense Undersecretary Alberto de Joya, and Deputy Budget Commissioner Amable Aguiluz.

After lunch the President enplaned for Manila, arriving at Malacañang at 6:15 p.m.

**February 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received members of the German economic and trade mission who called at Malacañang this morning to pay their respects following their recent arrival here to conclude a trade treaty with the Philippines.

During their call the German officials were told by the President that the Philippines is increasing its economic activities towards the direction of free enterprise. The President said that the Philippines has to expand its trade relations with industrialized countries other than the United States in preparation for the termination of this country's special trade relations with the U.S. in 1974.

Ambassador Melchor JP. Aquino, Philippine envoy to Germany who accompanied the German visitors to Malacañang, informed the President that the trade negotiations between Philippine and German representatives were "progressing smoothly."

Accompanied also by Dr. Franz Ferring, charge d'affaires of the German embassy in Manila, the missioners at Malacañang this morning included Dr. Gunther Erdmann, Dr. Raines Oppelt, Dr. Hans-Joachim Corvinus, Dr. Walbes Rolland, Dr. Paul MacDonald, Herbert Harsdorf, Siegfried Untermann, Klaus Schulze, Heinz Grossmann, and Miss Gerda Burre, interpreter.

The President also received this morning the newly-elected officers of the American Chamber of Commerce who called to pay their respects. The group included Newland Baldwin, ACC president; James Boots, vice-president; Stanley Fisher, executive vice-president; and A. W. Dunn, Richard Henry, Allison Gibbs, and George White, directors.

In the afternoon the President received several congressmen who consulted him on pressing problems of their respective localities. Rep. Luciano Joson of Mindoro Oriental accompanied officials of Naujan town who sought the President's assistance for an irrigation project. Among other callers this afternoon were Rep. Eladio Balite of Samar and Rep. Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation declaring Monday, March 2, this year, as a special public holiday in Iloilo province and Iloilo city, in commemoration of the 73rd birth anniversary of the late Tomas Confesor “one of our most outstanding resistance leaders during the last war.”

Former Governor and member of the Cabinet, the late Tomas Confesor was a native of Cabatuan, Iloilo.

**February 21.**—THE President was asked today by a “Common Man’s Day” caller to help her recall her “gallivanting” husband from abroad. The caller, Mrs. Josefa A. Merto. was among 3,349 who saw the President from 9:30 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. Many of the” callers came in large delegations seeking government assistance for some project in their localities.

The President was assisted as usual by the First Lady and a panel of “Common Man’s Day” staff headed by Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar.

Mrs. Merto complained to the President that her husband, the well-known bandleader and composer, Pepe Merto, had abandoned her and their seven children.

According to Mrs. Merto, Pepe Merto has been living with a Japanese woman in Tokyo for the last five years and has been asking his wife to arrange for their legal separation. Mrs. Merto requested the President to get her husband to return home to his wife and children in Manila.

The President refreshed the case to the Department of Foreign Affairs for proper action.

A delegation representing some 300 tenant families in the Legarda Estate in Sampaloc was accompanied by Rep. Ramon Bagatsing to the President. Benjamin Manuel president of the Manggahan Tercero Tenants Association, and Mrs. Maria Vda. de Sison, complained that the estate management has been collecting exorbitant rentals.

The President, through Cabinet Secretary Froilan Montalban, requested the city fiscal’s office to look into the charge of excessive rentals and the PHHC to study the possibility of purchasing the land for resale to the present occupants.

Another delegation from the Barrio Magsaysay Tenants Association representing occupants of a portion of the foreshore land in Tondo requested that they be given more time to prepare for the transfer of their homes and to make adjustments in their livelihood. The foreshore occupants are being ejected by the city government.

About 10 a.m. the President took time out from receiving callers to administer the oath to new officers of the Philippine Chamber of Insurance and Surety.

Inducted were Antonio Tankiang, president; Joaquin Garrido and Bienvenido Cruz, vice-presidents; Enrique Villar and Jesus San Luis, treasurer and assistant treasurer, respectively; Romeo R. Echauz, Alfonso Yuchengco, Felipe Liwanag, Alfonso Tan, Primo A. Cruz, and Robert T. Coyiuto, directors; Ceferino Villar, Sr., executive director; Filadelfo Inocentes, auditor, and Benjamin Martinez, executive secretary.

The President today discussed with World Bank officials a projected \$20.5 million loan to the NAWASA for the expansion of the Metropolitan Waterworks System.

I.P.M. Cargill, director of the Far East Department of the World Bank, called at Malacañang this afternoon and informed the President on discussions being held during the past two weeks by a WB mission and government representatives on the project.

Expected to cost a total of \$42 million, the project will be the first major expansion undertaken by the NAWASA. In previous years, expansion projects had been limited to patch-up jobs.

The WB official was accompanied to the President by Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., concurrently NAWASA chairman; and Director-General Armand Fabella of the Program Implementation Agency. With Cargill on his call at Malacañang was J. Sagne.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation authorizing the Children's Museum and Library, Inc., to conduct its educational, membership, and fund campaign from March 15 to April 30, this year.

The Chief Executive said in his proclamation that the "progress of our country greatly depends on the development of the latent capabilities of our youth who are the nation's pillars tomorrow." He states further that it should be "our vital concern to exert all-out efforts to promote the well-being of our children and to develop them into good and useful citizens and enlightened leaders of our country."

**February 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal left this morning for an eight-day peace mission and state visit to Indonesia. With the Chief Executive, aside from the First Lady, were Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez; Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces; Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes; Ambassador Tomas C. Benitez, presidential adviser on foreign affairs; Brig. Gen. Victor Dizon, senior presidential military aide; Hilarion Henares, Jr., presidential adviser on economic affairs; Dr. Francisco Tangco; and a group of Manila newspapermen and radiomen.

The President and the First Lady left Malacañang at 6:50 a.m. The Chief Executive was accorded military honors by a composite battalion of the Armed Forces upon his arrival at the Manila International airport.

On hand to give the President a warm send-off were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, congressional leaders by Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, members of the Cabinet and the diplomatic corps, and other ranking government officials.

Following the military honors, the President went down the lines of his well-wishers to acknowledge their greetings.

The President and the First Lady boarded the Philippine Air Lines jetliner *Sampaguita* at 7:30 a.m. which took off five minutes later.

Before leaving Malacañang this morning, the President granted another reprieve to three former PC non-commissioned officers who had been sentenced to death for the massacre of 14 civilians in Barrio Panampunan, Tarlac, Tarlac, in January of 1950.

Granted a 33-day reprieve were Sgt. Jose R. Pagaduan, Sgt. Juan Baldonaza, and Cpl. Agustin Nunog. They were scheduled to die in the electric chair on Tuesday, February 25. The new reprieve will expire on March 29, this year.

This is the fifth reprieve for the three condemned men who were convicted for multiple murder by the Tarlac court of first instance. The death penalty on them was confirmed by the Supreme Court.

President Macapagal landed safely in Jakarta at 11:45 a.m. (Manila time) today and was given a red carpet welcome by a big crowd at the airport.

President Sukarno headed Indonesian government officials at the airport who gave the visiting Philippine President a warm reception.

President Macapagal, wearing a grey suit, waved at the crowd as he emerged from the plane.

After receiving full military honors, the President addressed the crowd and thanked them for the warm reception.

From the airport, President Macapagal and President Sukarno led a long, motorcade to the Istana Merdeka, also known as Merdeka Palace, where the Macapagals will stay while in Jakarta.



President and Mrs. Macapagal were honored in the evening at a state dinner given by Bung Karno.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **Official Week in Review: February 23 – February 29, 1964**

**February 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received a standing ovation this noon after addressing the Indonesian parliament in which he reiterated his call for an association of Southeast Asian nations bound by common interests and founded on the philosophy that “Asian problems should be solved by Asian nations in the Asian fashion.”

President Macapagal, in a 45 minute address before the *Gotong Rojong* Parliament, paid tribute to President Soekarno whom he called “the architect of Indonesian independence and one of the great leaders of Asia and Africa.”

Earlier this morning President and Mrs. Macapagal heard mass at the Djakarta Cathedral.

Later, while the First Lady attended a special ladies’ program, the President motored to the heroes’ cemetery at Kalibata where he laid a wreath. He received ranking Indonesian officials headed by Dr. Raden Subandrio, Indonesian foreign minister.

The Presidential party will motor to the Bogor botanical gardens at 8:30 a.m. tomorrow (9:30 a.m., Manila Time).

**February 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal started the third day of his state visit to Indonesia with a 40-mile car drive to day from the Indonesian capital to the mountain resort in Bogor, West Java. The trip was the first leg of a four-day sight-seeing tour of Java and Bali.

The President led a mile-long motor convoy accompanied by his host, President Ahmed Sukarno, Mrs. Eva Macapagal, and members of the visiting party.

The route was decorated with national flags, multi-colored buntings, welcome banners, and huge portraits of the Filipino leader and his wife. Hundreds of flag-waving schoolchildren cheered the guests as the convoy wound its way from the suburbs of Bogor to Sukarno’s sprawling tree-lined summer palace.

The Filipino Chief of State was welcomed at the Palace steps by an all-female welcome committee headed by Sukarno’s second wife, Mrs. Hartini. Colorful dressed girls garlanded the Macapagals and showered flower petals on the group which was led to the chandeliered central hall of the palace for refreshments.

During his one-hour tour of the palace, President Macapagal was shown around the huge botanical gardens with its rare trees and collection of orchids.

Accompanied by Sukarno, the Filipino leader then resumed his car ride for the Asian-African conference town of Bandung, 120 miles southeast, for an overnight stay.

Socials and ceremonials in Jakarta had prevented President Macapagal and Sukarno from buckling down to work on the Malaysia crisis. The expectation is that the cool mountain air of Bandung and the intoxicating natural beauty of Bali may produce the long-awaited solution to the Malaysian problem.

Macapagal and Sukarno left for Bogor, 40 kilometers south, at 8:30 a.m., Manila time, each accompanied by a huge retinue.

**February 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal enplaned for Jogjakarta at 9:40 a.m. today with the First Lady and members of his entourage.

The President received military honors before departing from the Jakarta airport. He arrived one hour later at Jogjakarta where welcome honors were extended by local Indonesian officials.

From the airport the President and his party motored direct to the Gedung Agung guest house for a brief rest.

At exactly 12 noon, he went to the University of Gadjahmida which conferred on him the degree of Doctor in Political Science, *honoris causa*.

After the university ceremonies the President departed for Bali by special plane. The President and his party arrived at the Tuban airport in Bali at 4 p.m. He was transported by car to Istana Tampaksiring where he and his entourage had a brief rest.

This evening President Macapagal, the First Lady, and members of the President's entourage, were honored with a dinner after which they witnessed the performance of the *Kechak* dance by selected Indonesian dancers at the Istana Tatnpaksing.

**February 26.**—ON the fifth day of his state visit to Indonesia, President Macapagal started talks with President Sukarno on the explosive Malaysia controversy.

The two chiefs of state met in Denpasar, Bali, where the visiting President and his party were met by some 2,000 Balinese girls in colorful costumes and a crowd of 1,000 onlookers.

Later, they motored to Sukarno's Tampaksiring Palace, located in the scenic foothills 60 kilometers away.

An allegoric procession was held in honor of President and Mrs. Macapagal at noontime. In the afternoon the state visitors were honored at an informal party at the Bali Hotel in Denpasar.

Then they returned to Tampaksiring by car at 5 p.m., where the party took a respite from the day's travels.

No official activities were scheduled for the evening.

Malacañang today announced the designation of Jose P. Pascual of the Department of Justice as acting associate commissioner of immigration.

Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar, upon the recommendation of Secretary of Justice Salvador L. Mariño, made the designation to enable the commission to clear its backlog of work.

Pascual took the place of the late Commissioner Marcial Ranolk who died in Taipeh recently. Before his appointment Pascual was administrative officer of the Department of Justice. He finished law at the Philippine Law School in 1938.

**February 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal flew back today to Jakarta after a two-day stay in Bali Island where he held a series of talks with his host, President Sukarno.

After an, informal breakfast with the First Lady and official members of his party, the Philippine Chief Executive motored to Tuban airport in Denpasar, Bali, for his return trip to Jakarta where he spent the penultimate day of his six-day visit to Indonesia.

Reports said that the President and Sukarno returned triumphantly to Jakarta amid reports that the two had reached a solution to the Malaysia Problem which had plagued Southeast Asia in general and the members of the Maphilindo federation in particular. The two had talks at the Tampaksiring Palace the other night.

After appropriate ceremonies at the Tuban airport, the Philippine and the Indonesian Presidents took off for Jakarta and landed at the Kemayoran international airfield shortly after one o'clock this afternoon.

The President had a private luncheon with the First Lady at the Istana Negara, where the First Couple are billeted while in Jakarta.

After a brief rest the President and Mr. Sukarno held a final meeting wherein they finalized their accords reached in their conferences in Bali.

They signed a joint agreement reached which in effect was a solution to Asian problems by Asian themselves.

Both President Macapagal and President Sukarno are heads of governments which have so far withheld recognition to the newly-born Federation of Malaysia.

In the evening the President and the First Lady gave a state dinner in honor of President Sukarno at the plush Hotel Indonesia.

In the exchange of toasts the two Presidents reiterated their faith in the Maphilindo as blue-printed by the Manila Agreements, signed by them and Malaysia's Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman. They also reaffirmed their belief that Asian problems would be solved by Asian countries themselves.

**February 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today paid tribute to the late President Elpidio Quirino as he appealed to the people to call to mind the memory of this great man and the role he played in the building of this Republic.

In a message issued on the eve of the eighth anniversary of the death of the late Chief Executive, President Macapagal recalled that "it was he (Quirino) who helped lead our country out of the ruins of war into a period of reconstruction and rebirth."

He was able to visualize the heights of progress that the Filipino nation was capable of attaining and he dedicated his thoughts and efforts in translating this vision into reality, even in the face of opposition of many," he said.

President Macapagal returned this afternoon from a seven-day state visit to Indonesia during which he renewed traditional cordial relations with the neighboring Southeast Asian country.

Accompanied by the First Lady and a large entourage, the Chief Executive landed at the Manila International Airport at 5:15 p.m. aboard a specially chartered Philippine Air Lines jetliner, the *Sampaguita*.

A large group of Philippine officials and members of the diplomatic corps led by Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez and Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar were on hand to welcome the returning Chief Executive.

Among the members of the party who returned with him to Manila on the same plane were Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes, Gov. Benigno S. Aquino of Tarlac, PAL President and Mrs. Benigno Toda, Jr., Civil Aeronautics Administrator Vicente Rivera, Jr.; Ambassador Tomas Benitez, presidential adviser on foreign relations; Hilarion Henares, Jr., presidential adviser on economic affairs; Brig. Gen. Victor H. Dizon, presidential aide; Dr. Francisco F. Tangco, personal physician; and Col. Benjamin Tolentino, chief of the presidential guards.

The President was greeted with a 21-gun salute as he stepped down from his plane. He then reviewed a battalion of combined Armed Forces troops who served as honor guards.

Following the military honors, he read his prepared four-page report to the nation on the results of his weeklong sojourn.

**February 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led the nation today in commemorating the 8th death anniversary of President Elpidio Quirino.

The President, together with the First Lady, officiated at the unveiling of a life-size bronze bust of the late Chief Executive which was presented to the Department of Foreign Affairs this morning by Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda in his capacity as president of the Quirino Memorial Committee. The presentation of the bust was one of the highlights of this year's Commemoration of the late President's death.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez accepted the bust on behalf of the foreign affairs department.

In his speech at the unveiling held at the Luna Hall of the foreign office, the President paid tribute to the late Chief Executive.

The President motored to the Padre Faura office at 10:20 o'clock this morning with the First Lady. They were met at the entrance of the department and ushered to the Lima Hall by Secretary Lopez.

After the unveiling and presentation, the President had an informal exchange of views with members of the diplomatic corps and ranking government officials who attended the ceremonies.

Also at the ceremonies were close relatives of the late President headed by his brother, Commerce Director Eliseo Quirino, and children, Vicky and Tommy.

Earlier this morning the President sent a wreath to the tomb of the late Chief Executive at the South Cemetery. He designated Brig. Gen. Victor Dizon, senior presidential aide, to represent him at the cemetery pilgrimage.

This afternoon the President motored to the Manila Doctors Hospital on United Nations Avenue where he visited Sen. Gaudencio Antonino.

Upon returning to the Palace later in the afternoon, the President went over some state papers.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1964). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 60(9), lxix-lxxii.

## **Official Week in Review: March 1 – March 7, 1964**

**March 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today made a surprise visit to the government's multi-storey tenement house nearing completion in Vitas, Tondo. With the Chief Executive in his visit to Tondo was acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes.

Expressing impatience over the slow pace of construction work on the government tenement housing projects in Manila, the President directed the Department of Public Works to complete them as soon as practicable.

From the Tondo housing project the President proceeded to the St. Paul's Hospital on Manuel de la Fuente Street in Sampaloc where he visited Gov. Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte, who is recovering from a heart ailment.

Navarro entered the hospital Tuesday last week after experiencing chest pains during a survey of flooded areas in his province.

The President spent the early part of the day going over some state papers. He and the First Lady heard mass in the evening at the Malacañang chapel.

**March 2.**—THIS morning the Chief Executive accompanied by the First Lady, attended the necrological and funeral services for the late Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco. The necrological rites were held at the Senate session hall after which internment took place at the Manila North Cemetery.

President Macapagal approved today the minting of one-peso commemorative coins for the Andres Bonifacio and Apolinario Mabini centennials. The minting of the commemorative coins was proposed by the National Heroes Commission and endorsed by Governor Andres Castillo of the Central Bank.

Bonifacio's centennial was on November 30 last year while Mabini's will be on July 22 this year.

The Central Bank will procure 100,000 pieces each of the Bonifacio and the Mabini coins from the United States Bureau of Mint.

Designed by the Philippine Heraldry Committee, the coins will bear the bust relief of the heroes on one side and the seal of the Republic on the other. They will be 38.1 mm. in diameter and 2.74 mm. in thickness, with a metallic composition of 10 per cent silver and 10 per cent copper.

President Macapagal today appointed Hilarion Henares, Jr., as chairman of the National Economic Council. He takes over from PIA Director General Armand Fabella, who was designated acting chairman of the NEC pending the appointment of a permanent chairman in place of Sixto K. Roxas III.

Roxas resigned from the NEC effective March 1, but he will remain in the government service as presidential economic adviser and chairman of the Council of State's special technical committee.

Henares will relinquish all his holdings in the family business and other private interests.

The Council of State today agreed to recommend a three-point rice price policy that would fix the retail price of the ordinary rice varieties at not less than P1.10 and not more than P1.30 per ganta. The policy was approved at a two-and-a-half hour Council meeting presided by President Macapagal at the state dining room of Malacañang Palace this noon.

Also under the proposed rice policy:

1. The Rice and Corn Authority would be authorized to sell rice not only through its own retailers but also through established commercial outlets;
2. During the *palagad* season, the RCA would buy at no less than P12.50 per cent of palay of 45 kilos for ordinary varieties.

Senator Lorenzo Tañada made a reservation in connection with the RCA buying of palay, that there must be a ceiling price.

The President, upon the advice of the Council, asked Presidential Economic Adviser Sixto K. Roxas III to appear before the Senate committee on commerce and industry under the chairmanship of Senator Alejandro Almendras and to explain the Council of State recommendations for a rice price policy and also to explain suggestions for the financing of rice importations by the private sector, both here and abroad.

At the same time, the Chief Executive, also at the recommendation of the Council, asked Secretary of Foreign Affairs Salvador P. Lopez to communicate with the United States Government in order to point out the urgency of an early decision on the Philippine Government's request to import rice from the United States under Title I of US Public Law 480.

Present during the meeting were Senate President Ferdinand Marcos, Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Justice Secretary Salvador L. Marine, Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes, PIA Director General Armand Fabella, Health Secretary Floro Dabu; Commerce Secretary Comelio Balmaceda, General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Acting Executive Secretary Calixto Zaldivar, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes, Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, Cavite Governor Delfin Montano, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sychangco, and NAMARCO General Manager Jose D. Calderon.

In the evening the President motored to the Manila Hotel, where he was the guest of honor and principal speaker at a Labor-Management conference.

**March 3.**—THIS morning the Chief Executive received 10 provincial governors, two city mayors, and other provincial and municipal officials who consulted him on problems of their respective regions.

The Chief Executive also received Archbishop Jose Ma. Cuenco and former OEC Administrator Manuel Cuenco, who called to thank him for the "acts of kindness" shown by the President and the First Lady to the bereaved family of the late Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco.

The President met with members of the foreign affairs committees of both chambers of Congress today and submitted a full report on his recent talks with President Sukarno in Indonesia. The meeting held in the state dining hall of Malacañang Palace started at 12:15 p.m. and broke up at 4:30 p.m.

The President informed the foreign affairs leaders of the instructions which he gave Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez before the latter left for the tripartite ministerial talks in Bangkok. During the meeting, it was agreed to continue efforts to bring about a peaceful solution of the problems in Southeast Asia.

Following his meeting with the congressional leaders in the afternoon, the President received Ambassadors John Addis of the United Kingdom, Trevatt Cutts of Australia, and OEC Chairman Eleuterio Adevosio.

This afternoon President Macapagal called Malacañang newsmen to an informal press conference in the music room. The conference, originally Scheduled at 4:15 p.m., was held an hour later.

Malacañang newsmen, who waited for an hour, found out the President had only one story to give: he had ordered an investigation with the P150,000 bribery report in connection with the lease of a choice lot in Port Area to a private firm.

Then, the President retired from the music room. The informal press conference was over.

**March 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today inducted Hilarion M. Henares, Jr., as chairman of the National Economic Council. Henares took over from Chairman Sixto K. Roxas III, who had been designated presidential adviser on economic affair.

Before his appointment Henares was serving his second term as president of the Philippine Chamber of Industries. He was also presidential adviser on economic affairs.

Present at the induction held at the Malacañang reception hall were the inductee's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hilarion Henares, Sr.; his wife, Cecilia; daughter, Juno; former NEC Chairman Roxas, Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda; acting BIR Commissioner Benjamin Tabios; Customs Commissioner Jose B. Lingad; and a big crowd of officials and members of the Philippine Chamber of Industries, Philippine Chamber of Commerce, and American Chamber of Commerce.

Following the induction the President saw a total of 34 congressmen headed by Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun. The solons consulted the Chief Executive on problems of their respective localities.

Earlier this morning the President received Lions International President Aubrey D. Green and his wife, Ellen, who paid him a courtesy call. Green arrived yesterday afternoon for a three-day official visitation of local Lions clubs.

The Greens were accompanied to Malacañang by local Lions officials headed by Antonio Quirino and Jorge Tirador, director and district governor, respectively, of Lions International.

Towards noontime the President conferred with Mayor Antonio J. Villegas and MPD Chief Eduardo Quintos, who expressed appreciation for the President's designation of former Supreme Court Justice Mariano de Joya as special presidential investigator to look into the alleged P180,000 bribery charge against a number of Manila officials, including five city councilors, in connection with the lease of a city lot in port area.

The City Mayor reported on the investigation being conducted by his office on the alleged shakedown by Manila firemen of Chinese nationals during the recent fire which razed Chinatown. During his call, Villegas also:

(1) Requested the President to set aside 100 hectares of the Army reservation in Fort William McKinley in Makati for the site of a Manila Cemetery; and

(2) Asked authority to approve operational expenditures of the city like transportation expenses and other allowances, as well as authority to dispose of city government vehicles which are five years old or over.

The President assured Villegas that he will study his requests.

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady gave a merienda for the provincial, city, and municipal treasurers and assessors who are currently holding their 17th annual national convention.

In his brief remarks the President urged the provincial and city officials to exert extra efforts in revenue collections to bolster government finances with which to carry out successfully the Administration's program for a better life for the people.

During the merienda which was held at the Malacañang lawn by the Pasig River, the treasurers and assessors presented the President with a plaque pledging "full and absolute support" to his socio-economic program.



Later in the afternoon the President presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

**March 5.**—THIS morning the President discussed legislative matters with Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun. He also received Reps. Tereso Dumon and Ramon Durano of Cebu, as well as Jorge Abaci of Batanes, who took up with him problems of their respective districts.

Then the Chief Executive saw Rafael S. Recto and Antonio Esteban, vice-chairman and board member, respectively, of the Philippines National Bank who called to pay their respects following their reelection to their bank posts yesterday.

With Director Esteban in seeing the President were his wife, former Vice-Governor Gloria Esteban of Negros Occidental, and Mayor Elasio Devulgado of San Enrique of the same province.

Mayor Devulgado consulted the President on some problems of his municipality.

President Macapagal presided this afternoon over a press conference where he announced he had accepted the courtesy resignations of two Pampanga members of the Cabinet; namely, Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia and Health Secretary Floro Dabu.

The President gave the impression that he had decided to relieve the two Cabinet members in response to public criticisms that he had been packing key positions in the government with his provincemates.

The President received after his press conference this afternoon a collection of current “best sellers,” given to him as a gift by the American Booksellers Association. The books were presented to the Chief Executive by U.S. Ambassador William Stevenson, at simple rites in Malacañang.

In accepting the gift the President said that the collection “reflects the American way of life, foremost of which is the concept of freedom and justice that has also become the way of life of the Filipino people.”

The collection consisting of 100 books, is part of a library to be presented to Chiefs of States of 100 countries. The set had been carefully selected for their “human ambassadorial quality,” as best representing the American way of life. The collection consists of 26 books on fiction stories, 23 titles on American scene category, 22 titles of biographies, 17 on history, and 14 on arts and letters.

The distribution of the selected books to libraries all over the world had been suggested by Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy. The suggestion was adopted ‘by the association as an International White House library project.

Ambassador Stevenson in turning-over the books to the President was assisted by Mrs. Stevenson and Embassy officials.

Earlier this afternoon the Chief Executive received a 22-member delegation of Japanese marketing executives who are here attending the five-day First Asian Regional conference of the International Marketing Federation.

The group headed by Hirosaburo Mori, president of the Toyo Rayon Co., Ltd., of Japan was accompanied to the Palace by Emilio Maceda, manager of the marketing management service and chairman of the conference.

The delegation presented the President with a “Global” transistorized radio and a small portable transistorized television set, samples of Japanese electronic products.

After receiving the Japanese delegation, the President presided over his press conference.

The President this evening also saw a group of six representatives which formed themselves into a "Conscience Bloc" headed by Rep. Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan.

Composed of Reps. Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Pablo Sanidad of Ilocos Sur, Vicente Pimentel of Surigao del Sur, Francisco Lecaros of Marinduque, and Jorge Abad of Batanes, the group thanked the President for appointing Abad, a member of their group, to the secretaryship of public works and communications, vice Brigido Valencia, resigned.

**March 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today held a breakfast conference with Liberal Party senators on pending bills in Congress. They also discussed possible immediate solutions to the country's problems. Present at the meeting which lasted from 8:15 to 10:45 a.m. at the Malacañang state dining hall were Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos and Sens. Gerardo Roxas, Maria Kalaw Katigbak, Camilo Osias, Estanislao Fernandez, Juan, R. Liwag, Ambrosio Padilla, and Tecla San Andres Ziga.

Following his conference the President attended to his "Common Man's Day callers.

The President asked Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar to receive the first few hundreds of his callers up to 11 a.m. while he met with the LP Senators.

The First Lady and a "Common Man's Day" staff headed by Secretary Zaldivar assisted the President in attending to the callers up to 3:10 p.m.

The President spent the evening working on a pile of pending papers.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation declaring the period from March 16 to 22 this year as Tax Information Week.

In his proclamation the President pointed out that the expansion of the government's development program demands increased national revenues which, he said, can be attained only by popular endorsement and support of tax-conscious citizens.

"Tax consciousness should be aroused, promoted, and extended on a nation-wide scale by a government-citizen initiated campaign of tax information and education directed to people in all social levels," the President said.

The Chief Executive authorized the National Movement for Free Elections (NAMFREL) to intensify the tax-education drive, and called upon all citizens and civic organizations to cooperate in making the campaign a success.

**March 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker on the closing day of the First Asian Marketing Conference held at the *Ang Tibay* compound in Caloocan City today.

In his speech the President said that one of the principal objectives of his administration is to enhance trade and cultural relations between the Philippines and her Asian neighbors.

The President arrived at the conference site shortly before 1 p.m. He was presented with leis of sampaguita by Mrs. Cecilia Teodoro Dayrit.

The Chief Executive was fetched from Malacañang by Francisco Teodoro, son of Toribio Teodoro, *Ang Tibay* president who made brief after-luncheon remarks in Tagalog.

The President was introduced by Emilio Maceda, president of the Philippine Marketing Association and overall chairman of the First Asian Regional Conference.

Following his speech the President, accompanied by the Teodoros and their other guests, inspected the *Ang Tibay* shoe factory in the compound.

From the factory the President proceeded to the V. Luna General Hospital where he visited Land Authority Governor Rodrigo D. Perez, Jr., who is recovering from a stroke he suffered Monday afternoon.

The President was back at Malacañang at 3 p.m.

Later in the afternoon the President received some 200 members of the Iriga District Teachers Association who requested funds for the construction of a grandstand and a library building, as well as for the purchase of children's playground equipment.

The Bicol teachers were headed by Board Member Vicente Delima of Camarines Sur, Iriga Mayor Jose Villanueva, Association President Mariano Imperial, and Natalia Bayanpa, Cornelio Nepomuceno, and Marcial Importante, school principals.

Other afternoon callers included Mayor Antonio J. Villegas; Pedro Manayaon, general manager of the Manila Gas Corporation; and Antonio Yanguas, Sr., president of the Gas Workers Union of the Philippines.

In the evening the President met with the Consultative Council on Foreign Affairs on the results of the recently-concluded tripartite ministerial talks in Bangkok. During the meeting Foreign Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, who arrived this afternoon from Bangkok, rendered a report on the ministerial talks.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1964). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 60(10), lxxvii-lxxxii.

## President's Week in Review: March 8-14, 1964

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**March 8.**—THE President adjourned his meeting with Congress Leaders and members of the Senate and the House foreign relations committees at 2:30 a.m. The meeting which started at 8:30 last evening heard Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez report on the outcome of ministerial talks in Bangkok among the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia.

After a brief rest following the meeting, the President worked on state papers at his private study.

President Macapagal said today that the Philippines searches for peace in this region because "it is to the national interest that there should be peace around us as we push determinedly forward in building a stable economy."

The President made this statement in his regular Sunday radio program; *Ang Ating Pangulo*. His speech in Pilipino was broadcast by all major radio stations this evening.

This afternoon the Chief Executive received Mr. and Mrs. Norman Cousins, who called at Malacañang to pay their respects following their recent arrival in Manila. They were accompanied to the President by General Carlos P. Romulo, president of the University of the Philippines. Cousins is editor of the *Saturday Evening Review*.

The President also had individual conferences with some officials who consulted him on pending matters in their respective departments. Among the officials were Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar and Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes.

After the conference the President went down to the Palace chapel and heard mass with members of his family.

**March 9.**—THIS morning the President was guest of honor and speaker at the closing ceremonies of the three-day fifth annual convention of the Confederation of Government Employees Organization (COGEO) held at the GSIS auditorium.

In his speech the President asked government workers to intensify their efforts towards the realization of the basic goals of the Administration's five-year program.

Before addressing the government employees, the President inducted into office the following newly elected officers and directors of the confederation: Fernando Santico, president; Alfredo Andal, Juan O. Coloma and Ramon Romero, 1st, 2nd and 3rd vice-presidents, respectively; Pablo Garcia, auditor; Jose Castañeda, PRO; and C. Savate, Tomas Morota, Asuncion Usero, Simon Guillermo, Emiliano Ramirez, Rosario Capistrano, Vitaliano Bernardino, Jose M. Quintos, and Felix Fernandez, directors.

President Macapagal today met with the Council of State on the financing requirement of rice importation and the operation of the National Marketing Corporation (NAMARCO) this year.

Present at the top-level meeting which started at 12:30 p.m. at the state dining hall in Malacañang were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Sens. Eulogio Rodriguez and Lorenzo Tañada, Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, House Majority Floor-leader Justiniano Montano, Budget Commissioner Faustino SyChangco, Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda, Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, Justice Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, PIA Director-General Armand Fabella, NEC Chairman Hilarion Henares, Jr., Health Secretary Rodolfo Caños, Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes, Public Works Secretary Brigido Valencia, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes, Acting Executive Secretary Calixto G. Zaldivar, Presidential Adviser on Economic Affairs Sixto Roxas III, Cavite Gov. Delfin Montano, and NAMARCO General Manager Jose Calderon.

Following his meeting with the Council of State in the afternoon, the President received delegates to the International Rice Research Conference.

The 11-day conference which opened last March 3, at the WHO building on UN Avenue, is sponsored jointly by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources through the Bureau of Plant Industry.

BPI Director Eugenio Cruz accompanied the delegates from 16 countries to Malacañang. Director Cruz, who presented the delegates to the President, said that the last four days of the conference will be devoted to the discussion of agricultural engineering aspect of rice production, shipping, and processing.

The President was assisted by Acting Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano in receiving the delegates.

President Macapagal today submitted the nominations of two members of his Cabinet for confirmation by the Commission on Appointments. Nominated were Rep. Jorge A. Abad of Batanes as secretary of Public Works and Communications and Hilarion Henares, Jr., as chairman of the National Economic Council.

**March 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received this morning officials of the Crocker-Citizens National Bank in San Francisco, California, who paid him a courtesy call following their recent arrival here on a business trip.

The CCNB officials are Roy A. Britt, vice-chairman of the board; Albertus Taapken, vice-president and manager, international banking department; and William J. Elliot, assistant vice-president and Far East representative.

Accompanied to Malacañang by Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, the American bankers had an exchange of views with the President on foreign investments here. The Chief Executive told the CCNB officials that he will work for the passage of the foreign investments bill now pending in Congress to attract further foreign investments needed in the country's development efforts.

Following his talks with the American visitors, the President received Vice-Gov. Belen F. Calderon of Nueva Vizcaya, who consulted him on problems of her province. With the Vice-Governor in seeing the Chief Executive were her husband, NAMARCO General Manager Jose Calderon; Jimmy Alvarado, provincial plant industry officer; and Dominador Bioda, municipal treasurer of Bambang.

At 11 a.m. the President left Malacañang for the Base Operations in Nichols Field where he boarded the presidential plane, *The Common Man*, for Cotabato to inspect the sites of the Administration's crash rice program. With the President in flying to the Mindanao province were Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, Health Secretary Rodolfo Caños, and CAA Administrator Vicente Rivera, Jr. The First Lady saw the President off at the airport.

President Macapagal arrived in Norala, Cotabato, at 5 p.m. in a three-day tour of the province and Davao. He landed in Surala town accompanied by Secretary Jose Feliciano and Secretary Caños.

A large crowd met him in Surala headed by Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, Gov. Udtog Matalam, and Mayors Jose Sison of Surala and Tomas Balayan of Norala.

Upon his arrival at the airport, the President was hustled to a stage where, though unscheduled to speak, he obliged and addressed the crowd. He was introduced by Pendatun.

In his address the President appealed for cooperation in a veiled reference to Senate President Marcos to stop bickering "and quarrelling among us."

He then proceeded to the town church to hear a *Te Deum*. He had merienda in Norala and later motored to Tecurong, where he stayed overnight in the residence of Pendatun.

**March 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was impressed today by the economic Potentialities of a development farm and the rubber plantations in Cotabato province. He inspected the vast tobacco plantations at the Cotabato General Development Corporation farm of Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun in barrio Alip, Buluan.

On the way to Davao City this morning, the President passed through the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company plantations in Bulakanon, Makilala town.

From the rubber plantations, the President paid an unscheduled visit to Kidapawan where a big unexpected turnout of residents led by Mayor Alfonso Angeles welcomed him.

After lunch and a brief rest at the residence of Buenaventura Sabulao, a lawyer in the town, the President continued the trip to Davao City, making short stops in Bansalan, Matamao, and Digos where he had merienda at the house of Health Secretary Rodolfo Caños.

The President was accompanied during his two-day inspection trips in Cotabato and Davao by Secretary Caños, Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, Speaker Protempore Pendatun, and Cotabato Gov. Udtog Matalam.

President Macapagal arrived in Davao City today where he will address the District Rotary convention tomorrow noon at the Insular Hotel.

The President was accompanied by Nacionalista Gov. Duterte, who met him in Digos. The President arrived in Davao City ahead of original schedule, as he cancelled the itinerary which would have taken him to the far-flung Dadiangas at the southern tip of Cotabato.

Before proceeding to Davao City, President Macapagal stopped at the residence of the newly designated Health Secretary Caños where he had merienda.

The President was also met by the First Lady in Davao City, as she arrived there this noon to join the President.

The President arrived in Cotabato last night where he spent the night in the farm house of Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun in Buluan.

Waking up early, President Macapagal had breakfast in the Pendatun residence and conferred with Cotabato provincial officials headed by Gov. Matalam.

**March 12.**—THIS morning the Chief Executive met with Malacañang newsmen at a breakfast conference at the DARATEX (Davao Ramie Textile Mills) in Dallao, Davao City. The newsmen were accompanied by Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes.

The President had arrived at the DARATEX yesterday evening from Cotabato Province. He was joined there by the First Lady, who had arrived yesterday afternoon from Manila.

After the conference with newsmen the President inducted the officers of the Davao LP Mayors League.

Inducted were Ramon M. Anima, president; Cesar de la Victoria, Gregorio Dujale, and Juan Labasano, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd vice-presidents, respectively; Jose T. Amancio, secretary-treasurer; Isidro Urdaneta, PRO-auditor; and Antonio Go Pace, John Joyce, Pedro Castro, Catalino Sajulia, Oswaldo Barol, and Aniceto Solis, directors.

Meanwhile the First Lady also administered the oath to Mrs. Elisa Panuncialman as president of the Sta. Ana Women's Club at Barrio Sta. Ana, Davao. From Sta. Ana, the First Lady proceeded to the Rotary Luncheon at Insular Hotel where the President joined her a little later.

After the luncheon the First Couple motored directly to the Banguy Airport and took off at 2:40 p.m. aboard the Presidential Friendship Fokker plane for the return trip to Manila.

President Macapagal today conferred with Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez on the latest reactions from Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur on the Philippine proposal to solve the Malaysia crisis.

The Philippine proposal, which was submitted by Secretary Lopez during the tripartite ministerial talks in Bangkok last week, calls for simultaneous disengagement of Indonesian forces in Borneo, discussions on the political settlement regarding Malaysia, and holding of the tripartite summit meeting.

The President met with Lopez shortly after his arrival at 5:55 o'clock at Malacañang this afternoon from Mindanao where he conducted a three-day inspection of the government's rice crash experimental projects in Cotabato and Davao, designed to increase production of the staple commodity,

The President was guest speaker at the 21st Rotary Club District Conference held at the Insular Hotel in Davao City this noon.

**March 13.**—THIS morning the President presided over his regular weekly "Common Man's Day" reception in Malacañang. Assisted by the First Lady and Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar, the Chief Executive lent the presidential ear to the problems and complaints of some 3,092 citizen-callers for four-and-a-half hours, according to Malacañang.

The Palace callers included a large delegation of unionists in the Strike-bound Development Bank of the Philippines who marched to Malacañang to denounce unfair labor practices allegedly committed by the management of the state financing firm.

Later in the afternoon President Macapagal received officers and members of the Philippine Contractors Association whom he entertained at cocktails in Malacañang.

Led by Pedro O. Valdez, PCA president, the Filipino contractors called on the Chief Executive to air their complaint against denial to them of government construction projects. They told the President that many of them were about to abandon the contracting business because of the increasing tendency on the part of the government to handle state projects. The President told the contractors he was in favor of giving private contractors more participation in the construction of government projects linked with the administration's socio-economic program. He assured them that he would take steps toward giving more state projects to private bidders.

Before departing for the Pines City, the President also received Ambassadors Shamuel Sheley of Israel and T. Wakeham Cutts of Australia.

The Israeli envoy presented the President with five volumes of the *Biblical Views of the Old and the New Testaments* as gifts from President Shazar.

Ambassador Cutts, on the other hand, exchanged views with the President on the general situation in Southeast Asia.

President Macapagal motored to Baguio City late this evening for a two-day religious retreat in the summer capital.

The President will enter the Sunnyside Villa of the fathers of the Divine Word this morning for his annual lenten penance. He will stay in the Catholic center until tomorrow evening or Monday morning where he will remain in spiritual contemplation, undisturbed by usual callers and routine affairs of state.

**March 14.**—THE boiling political pot settled temporarily as President Macapagal started today a two-day lenten spiritual retreat in the Summer Capital.

The President entered the Sunnyside Villa of the Fathers of the Divine Word at 4:45 a.m. today immediately upon arrival from Manila by car in the company of the First Lady and their children.

For the next couple of days, the Chief Executive will remain in complete seclusion within the cloistered confines of the sprawling Catholic seminary during which he would be unavailable to callers. He would also temporarily lay aside work on routine state matters.

President Macapagal is scheduled to stay, in the Villa until tomorrow afternoon. He will entertain Malacañang newsmen who went with him to Baguio at a dinner at the Mansion House before returning to Manila. The dinner will be the only social engagement for the President during his stay in Baguio.

Sole companion of the President in his retreat at the Villais Lt. Isabelo Floresca, Malacañang aide. The First Lady and the Macapagal children are occupying the presidential summer residence. The First Family left Manila at 1 o'clock this morning. They were scheduled to leave earlier but allowed Friday the 13th to pass before taking to the road.

President Macapagal has declared Saturday, March 28, as a special public holiday.

In signing Proclamation No. 213 the Chief Executive stated that because the 27th of March (Good Friday) and 29th (Sunday) are holidays, Saturday, the 28th, may be declared a special public holiday without prejudice to the public interest.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



## **Official Week in Review: March 15 – March 21, 1964**

**March 15.**—PROBLEMS of government and other worldly things took the backseat for President Macapagal, who plunged this morning into an intimate session with God in a two-day spiritual retreat at the Sunnyside Villa in Baguio of the Society of the Divine Word Fathers.

The Chief Executive entered the retreat house at 4:45 o'clock yesterday morning after a four-hour drive from Manila. The long ride notwithstanding, the President was up after an hour's rest to begin his two-day seclusion with morning prayers as scheduled. The President has been attending the morning prayers as scheduled. He has been attending the spiritual retreat in the Villa since he was a congressman.

The daily spiritual activities included mental payers, personal reflections, praying of the rosary, and making stations of the cross. The President attended a spiritual conference in the morning and heard a special mass in the afternoon yesterday and today. In between group schedules the President devoted his time to spiritual readings.

President Macapagal checked out at 5 o'clock this afternoon from a two-day spiritual retreat at the Sunnyside Villa of the Society of the Divine Word. The President told newsmen that his two-day seclusion has been spiritually refreshing.

Members of Congress who joined him at the retreat said the President had served as a waiter to the retreatants at lunch this noon and did his stint creditably.

Hearing the comment of the solons who saw him at the Guest House, as the President's guests at a dinner this evening, President Macapagal suddenly quipped, "I must have been on the wrong calling."

Sen. Manlapus observed that the President served the bananas one by one to the retreatants and was alert in filling up their empty glasses with drinking water.

Mrs. Macapagal, who motored to Baguio this afternoon, met the Chief Executive upon the latter's arrival at the Guest House.

The President met Malacañang newsmen and gave an extended press conference recalling his life in seclusion, and discussed other problems confronting his administration.

He also met Mayor Norberto de Guzman of Baguio City who took up with the President the problems confronting the Summer Capital.

After meeting the newsmen, the President and Mrs. Macapagal played host to some members of Congress of both parties who had attended the two-day spiritual retreat.

Among their guests were Sen. and Mrs. Estanislao Fernandez, Sen. Raul Manlapus, Reps. Marcelino Veloso, Ricardo V. Ladrido, Emilio Espinosa, Jr., and Felix Fuentebella.

**March 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned to Malacañang this afternoon from a two-day spiritual retreat at the Sunnyside Villa of the Society of Divine Word fathers in Baguio.

The President, together with the First Lady, arrived in Malacañang at 4:40 p.m. after addressing delegates to the 10th annual convention of vocational school superintendents, supervisors, and principals at the Mansion House this morning.

The Chief Executive was scheduled to address the PAVE delegates at the Teachers' Camp in the Pines City, but he invited them instead to go to the Mansion House.

In his speech the President asked the delegates to help the Administration attain its objectives through selflessness and dedication. The President was introduced by Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces.

After addressing the PVE delegates, the President and the First Lady officiated at the opening of the exhibits of articles designed and manufactured by various vocational schools all over the country. The display was made at the Teachers' Camp. The First Lady, assisted by the President, cut the ceremonial ribbon.

After viewing the display which included woodworks, mechanical and electrical gadgets, and home industries products, the President and the First Lady motored back to the Mansion House where they had a hurried lunch before returning to Manila.

President Macapagal met today with the Council of State and received a report from Governor Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank on Monetary Board Resolution No. 1119.

The resolution stipulated that all deferred payment transactions will be revised at the rate prevailing on the date payment falls due; provided that in no case should the rate exceed P3 per U.S. dollar.

Present at the meeting held at the Malacañang state dining room were Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos, Sens. Eulogio Rodriguez and Lorenzo Tañada, Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, House Majority Floor-leader Justiniano Montano, Acting Health Secretary Rodolfo Caños, Justice Salvador L. Mariño, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes, NEC Chairman Hilarion Henares, Jr., Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, Foreign Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, PIA Director General Armand Fabella, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes, Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar, Presidential Adviser on Economic Affairs Sixto Roxas, III, Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, and Cavite Gov. Delfin Montano.

**March 27.**—THIS morning the President received eight provincial governors and three city mayors who took up with him problems of their respective constituents, including local appointments. Those who called on the Chief Executive were Gov. Esteban Picson of Samar, Jose Aquino of Agusan, Filomeno Villanueva of Capiz, Teresa Dupaya of Cagayan, Rafael Palmares of Iloilo, Pedro Dizon of Bataan, and Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga; Mayor Antonio Villegas of Manila, Camilo Cabili of Iligan City, Liberato Reyna of Dagupan, and Vice-Gov. Belen Calderon of Nueva Vizcaya.

Late in the afternoon the President formally launched the tax information drive to be undertaken by the Department of Finance and the Bureau of Internal Revenue. The launching was held at a Press and Radio-TV conference at the Heroes' Hall in Malacañang at 6 p.m.

The President was assisted by Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and BIR and Customs officials.

The President addressed a large gathering of newspaper editors, publishers, and newsmen at the kick-off ceremony launching the tax information campaign at the Heroes Hall of Malacañang.

The President explained the tax information campaign and shifted to some political issues during the press conference which followed his address.

**March 18.**—THIS morning the President received 31 members of Congress headed by Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, who took up with him problems of their respective districts, as well as legislative matters.

He also received Ambassador William E. Stevenson and Fr. Pierangelo Quaranta, rector of the Don Bosco Technical Institute.

Ambassador Stevenson arranged a call on the President by U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk, who is coming here to attend the 9th council of ministers meeting from April 9 to 15 of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization.

Fr. Quaranta took up with the President the establishment of a Don Bosco training center in Tondo which will provide free technical training for boys; such as, woodworking, printing press, drafting, automotive, electro-mechanics, and general mechanics. The Rector was accompanied to Malacañang by Justice Secretary Salvador L. Marino and Sebastian Ugarte of the *Philippines Herald*.

This afternoon the President received the credentials of Dr. Anton M. Mayr-Harting as the first Austrian ambassador to the Philippines.

Present at the presentation ceremony held at the Palace ceremonial hall were members of the Cabinet headed by Foreign Secretary Salvador P. Lopez.

Immediately after receiving the credentials of Ambassador Mayr-Harting, the President presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

President Macapagal spoke to the people this evening over the radio and television on the subject of smuggling and other national problems.

The President's speech which was delivered from Malacañang was simulcast "live" over major Manila radio and television stations at 7 p.m. The address will also be rebroadcast by provincial radio stations throughout the country.

**March 19.**—THIS morning the First Couple and their daughter, Gloria, led visitors at the first Israel Exposition being held in Manila at the Philamlife auditorium on United Nations Avenue. The exposition consisted of photographic displays about the country, its people and culture, as well as agricultural and industrial products of Israel.

During refreshments for the President and the First Lady at the auditorium, the Israeli Ambassador and his wife presented Mrs. Macapagal with a lockstone from King Solomon's mines.

Back at Malacañang at 10:30 a.m., the President received Govs. Jose Esteves of Albay and Manuel Pecson of Masbate, who consulted him on problems of their respective provinces. The two Bicol governors were accompanied to Malacañang by Finance Undersecretary Jorge Labayo.

The President also received Benigno Toda, Jr., and Rafael Ygoa, chairman of the board and president, respectively, of the Philippine Air Lines, who reported on PAL operations and the annual meeting of its stockholders.

Other morning callers were Rep. Ramon Bagatsing and Vice-Mayor Herminio Astorga of Manila.

In the afternoon the President presided over a formal press conference in Malacañang.

Then the President entertained at cocktails some 70 members of the Philippine Association led by UP President Carlos P. Romulo and Sen. Gil J. Puyat.

President Macapagal and the First Lady tendered a dinner today in honor of Cambodia Charge d'Affaires Norodum Monissara. The President and the First Lady were state guests recently of the Cambodian government.

President Macapagal today issued an executive order rendering in full force and effect the plan of organization proposed by the special committee on reorganization of agencies for the administrative machinery of the Agricultural Land Reform Code.

Republic Act No. 3844, otherwise known as the Agricultural Land Reform Code, provides that all agencies affected by the Code be reorganized and realigned to enable them to fulfill the objectives and requirements of the land reform program.

The President forthwith created a Special Committee on Reorganization of Agencies for Land Reform to undertake the establishment of the basic administrative machinery of the Agricultural Land Reform Code.

**March 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today put an end to the 16-day old strike in the Development Bank of the Philippines when he succeeded in effecting a return-to-work agreement between the bank's management and the striking labor union.

The agreement was forged in a conference called by the President in Malacañang this morning with DBP officials headed by Chairman Pablo Lorenzo and the bank's union leaders led by Rodolfo Paet, union president; and Ignacio Lacsina, president of the National Association of Trade Unions.

Among others present were DBP Governors Enrique Ledesma, Jovino Lorenzo, Amado Castro, and Eugenio Eusebio; Cesar Recto, manager of the credit department; and Anselmo Sevilla, manager of the industrial department.

After the conference the President attended to his "Common Man's Day" callers totaling 3,552 persons, including 21 delegations. He was assisted in receiving the general public from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. by the First Lady and the "Common Man's Day" staff headed by Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar.

Following a short rest, the President had a *merienda* conference with members of the League of Provincial Governors and City Mayors who are currently meeting in Manila to discuss measures for recommendation to Congress, including a proposed decentralization bill.

In the evening the President motored to the Philamlife compound in Quezon City where he was guest speaker at the national convention of fire chiefs.

**March 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Baguio City early this morning from Manila to deliver the commencement address at the Philippine Military Academy.

Waking up late, the President read the morning papers then answered written questions by Malacañang newsmen who accompanied him to Baguio.

After answering the reporters' written questions, President Macapagal worked on his speech which he delivered this afternoon before the PMA graduating class.

Economic Coordinator Eleuterio Adevosos sought an audience with the President but was asked to return tonight.

At 4 p.m. the President and the First Lady motored to the PMA. They were met by Academy officers headed by Colonel Godofredo Mendoza, PMA superintendent, who introduced the President to the graduating class.

After addressing the graduates the President returned to the Guest House and received Adevosos. The OEC chief conferred with the President on problems facing the OEC.

Manila Mayor Antonio J. Villegas was also scheduled to see the President today. The mayor arrived in Baguio to address the Baguio Rotary Club.

After dinner this evening President Macapagal and the First Lady motored back to Manila.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1964). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 60(12), xciii-xcvi.



## **Official Week in Review: March 22 – March 28, 1964**

**March 22.**—THE President and the First Lady arrived in Manila about 12:30 a.m. today from Baguio where the President addressed the graduates of the Philippine Military Academy.

After a few hours' rest, the President this morning spent some time going over state papers.

He heard mass shortly before noon with members of his family at the Palace chapel.

President Macapagal was guest speaker at the 67th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Army in Fort Andres Bonifacio, Rizal, this afternoon.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President left Malacañang for the ceremonies shortly before 4 p.m. They were fetched from the Palace by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.

At the main entrance of the fort, they were met by Brig. Gen. Ernesto Mata, PA commander. Waiting for them at the administration building was a big crowd headed by Defense Undersecretary Alberto de Joya.

The President went around the fort and inspected field exhibits consisting of military material.

Upon reaching the parade ground later, the President addressed the officers and men drawn up in formation. He was introduced by General Mata. Then a parade and review was held in his honor.

The Chief Executive returned to Malacañang at 6:30 p.m.

The President has designated Cesar C. Zalamea, deputy director general of the Program Implementation Agency, as acting PIA chief during the absence of Director General Armand V. Fabella. Fabella enplaned with Central Bank Gov. Andres Castillo yesterday for Washington to confer with International Monetary Fund officials.

From Washington, Fabella will join the Philippine panel to the United Nations trade and development conference at Geneva, Switzerland. He is expected to be away for two weeks.

Zalamea, before joining PIA, was assistant vice-president of the Philippine-American Life Insurance Company in charge of investments, research, and statistics.

**March 23.**—THIS morning the President received Philippine Ambassador to Washington Amelito R. Mutuc, who called to pay his respects. Ambassador Mutuc returned last Saturday from the American capital to retire to public life.

Other morning callers were former Secretary Serafin Salvador, Joaquin Chung, Jr., of Leyte, and Dean Feliciano J. Ledesma of San Beda College.

Before presiding over the meeting of the Council of State, the President had a television interview with Michel Pericard, Jean Bertho, Jacques Delarue, Jacques Becker, and Girard Sire of the Paris TV Network.

President Macapagal today presided over a meeting of his Council of State.

Present at the top-level meeting which started at 12:30 p.m. at the Malacañang state dining room were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Sen. Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, House Majority Floorleader Justiniano Montano, Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez, Justice Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Labor Secretary Bernardino Abes, Health Secretary Rodolfo Caños, Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, NEC Chairman Hilarion Henares, Jr., Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano,

Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., General: Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, Acting Commerce Secretary Teofilo Reyes, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes, Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar, and Presidential Adviser on Economic Affairs Sixto K. Roxas III.

Late in the afternoon the President had an informal press conference with newsmen covering the Palace.

He also had an interview with Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Kuhn, correspondents of the Washington Star in Oregon.

**March 24.**—THIS morning the President met at breakfast with 18 provincial governors and seven city mayors whose support he enlisted in the Administration's crash rice program. During the conference the provincial and city executives offered to help the Administration in its anti-smuggling campaign. The President and the local officials had an exchange of views on various local problems.

Following the breakfast, the President designated Carlos E. Santiago as acting member of the National Economic Council. Santiago will take the place of the acting member of the Social Security Commission, and Cipriano Cid place of Ildefonso J. Remolona, while Cid will take over from Santiago in the NEC.

The President then received leaders of the Philippine Veterans League headed by retired Generals Alberto Ramos and Florencio Selga, who requested his help in securing reparations goods previously committed by the Reparations Commission to the different veterans associations. The veterans were accompanied to Malacañang by Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun.

The President also received members of the Aviation Policy Committee who submitted to him a report on the national civil aviation policy, both domestic and foreign.

Those who called on the Chief Executive were Foreign Undersecretary Librado D. Cayco; Rafael Ygoa and Benigno Toda, Jr., president and board chairman, respectively, of the Philippine Air Lines; Brig. Gen. Jonas Victoria; and Eleodoro de la Rosa of the Department of Commerce.

President Macapagal received today the credentials of Johann von Stechow as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Philippines.

In receiving the letters of credence of the German Ambassador, the President expressed confidence that with the recent conclusion of a trade agreement between the Philippines and Germany, the trade of the two countries "should be maximized to our mutual advantage."

Present at the presentation ceremony held at the Palace ceremonial hall were members of the Cabinet headed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Salvador P. Lopez.

This afternoon the President, in his capacity as chairman of the enlarged Anti-Smuggling Committee, motored to the Philippine Navy headquarters on Roxas Boulevard where he witnessed a trial run of 18 units of fiberglass speedboats recently acquired by the Navy for its anti-smuggling campaign.

From the Navy headquarters the President proceeded to the Bureau of Customs where he inspected highly dutiable goods impounded by customs authorities after they had been misdeclared and under-valued by the shippers. During his surprise visit to the piers, the President was briefed by Commissioner Jose B. Lingad on the *modus operandi* of smugglers in different ports of entry.

Shortly after receiving the credentials of Ambassador Stechow, the President presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

**March 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met at breakfast today with Liberal Party members of the lower house of Congress on various party matters.

During the two-hour morning conference held at the Malacañang state dining room attended by 25 representatives, the President made a progress report on the past two years of his administration, particularly on the drive against graft and corruption and the economic development program.

After the meeting the President received Austrian Ambassador Anton Mayr-Harting who called to say goodbye before leaving for his headquarters in Bangkok this afternoon. Ambassador Harting had presented his credentials to the Chief Executive last week as his country's envoy to the Philippines.

The President also received Wes Gallagher, general manager of the Associated Press, who arrived yesterday in the course of an inspection tour of AP bureaus throughout the world.

With Gallagher in calling on the President were Robert Eunson, general executive for Asia; Edwin White, acting chief of the AP local bureau; and Henry Hartsenbusch, AP local bureau chief who is going on leave.

Shortly before noon the President inducted former Rep. Serafin Salvador of Rizal as Commissioner in the Reparations Commission, representing the Nacionalista Party.

In the afternoon the President met with Fiscals Eulogio Serrano of Manila and Benjamin Aquino of Rizal on the speedy disposal of smuggling cases in their respective jurisdictions.

He also received Civil Service Commissioner Abelardo Subido; Brig. Gen. Nicanor Garcia, PC chief; and Col. Jose Lukban, NBI director, who presented for his approval a set of rules and regulations governing municipal police forces throughout the country.

**March 26.**—THE President spent the day quietly in observance of Holy Thursday.

With the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, and their daughter Gloria, the President motored to the residence of his mother-in-law on Laura Street, San Juan, Rizal, where he stayed most of the day.

They left the Palace at 9 a.m. and were back at 5:20 p.m.

An hour later, the President and the First Lady heard mass at the Palace chapel.

**March 27.**—THE Chief Executive led Christian Philippines today in the solemn observance of Good Friday as he made his annual pilgrimage to his hometown of Lubao in Pampanga.

Every year, since he was a Congressman, the President always visited his hometown on All Saints Day and during the Holy Week to join his townspeople in the celebration of these religious occasions.

Leaving Malacañang at 8:45 a.m., the President arrived at the town proper at 10:30 a.m.

After visiting a cousin, Miss Leonor Tiongco, the Chief Executive walked to the nearby church for the traditional *visita iglesia*. Mayor Anastacio Bernal joined the President at the residence of Miss Tiongco where they had a light merienda.

His townspeople who expected his coming, lined the town's main thoroughfare to greet him.

From the church the President dropped by the house of HFC General Manager Vicente Dimson before motoring back to Manila.

He was back in Malacañang at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. The President spent the rest of the day quietly with members of his family.



**March 28.**—THIS morning the President visited Agusan Gov. Jose C. Aquino at the latter's residence on Araneta Boulevard and Palanca Street in Quezon City.

The Chief Executive condoled with the provincial governor on the death of his father, Don Vedasto Aquino. The deceased whose remains lie in state at the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel church on Broadway, Quezon City, was a victim of heart attack last Tuesday.

This afternoon the President worked on a pile of pending papers.

He issued a proclamation declaring April 2 this year a special public holiday in the provinces of Bulacan and Bataan in commemoration of the birth anniversary of the Prince of Filipino poets, Francisco Balagtas.

The President also signed the sixth reprieve to three condemned prisoners, "as more time was still needed to study their petitions for executive clemency."

The President cancelled his trip this evening aboard the *RPS Rajah Soliman* for Marinduque. He will fly instead tomorrow morning to witness the colorful *Morion* festival in connection with Easter Sunday.

The *Morion* festival is known to be the most colorful Easter show in the whole country during the Holy Week.

The festival will be held in Gasan where once, President Quirino was proclaimed King of Gasan.

The President is expected to be back tomorrow.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Macapagal, D. (1964). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 60 (13), xcix-cii.

**President's Month in Review: April, 1964**

**President's Week in Review: May 1-23, 1964**

## President's Week in Review: May 24-30, 1964

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**May 24.**—THE President woke up late this morning after his engagement the previous night at the Marfil Beach Resort, where he addressed the La Union Bar Association. After breakfast with the members of his family, he retired to his room where he went over pending state papers. President Macapagal shuttled between Baguio City and Poro Point, La Union, resort for the second consecutive day when he motored up to the Pines City this afternoon to address the Tenth Annual National Convention of the Philippine Veterans Legion in the City Auditorium.

The President reached the Pines City at 3:30 p.m. and was met by National Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., PVL National Commander Jaime Piopongco, former Congressman Artemio Lobrin, and Col. Simeon Medalla.

At the convention the President was given a plaque of appreciation and introduced as the closing day speaker of the convention.

Earlier, Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez addressed the convention and assailed the Macapagal administration for its failure to improve the plight of the soldiers. Informed of the Pelaez tirade, President Macapagal lashed out at the Veep in his speech.

After his address the President motored to the Guest House, where he met Malacañang newspapermen who had accompanied him in his trip. The newspapermen were later joined by Mayor Norberto de Guzman, Secretary Peralta, and Councilor Gaudencio Floresca.

After the press conference the President motored back to Poro Point to spend the night there. He is scheduled to return to Manila early tomorrow morning.

**May 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned to Malacañang early this evening from Poro Point, San Fernando, La Union, where he spent the night after addressing the 19th Annual Convention of the Philippine Veterans Legion in Baguio City yesterday afternoon.

While in Poro Point today the President worked on official papers. At noon, he had a luncheon conference with Manila newsmen who accompanied him in his trip.

The President, together with the First Lady and their children Gloria and Diosdado, Jr., left the naval base at 2:30 p.m. On the way back to Manila the President dropped at the residence of Dr. Jose O. Pelayo, SWA officer in charge, in Angeles City for a brief snack. The President arrived in Malacañang at 7:30 p.m.

Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes announced this evening the designation of Raul S. Gonzalez as acting assistant press secretary.

Until his designation, Gonzalez was chief of the Emergency Employment Administration information service. He had been a staff member of the Manila Chronicle, public relations consultant to the II Labor-Management Congress, and publications director of the University of the East.

**May 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal motored this morning to barrio Bicutan in Taguig, Rizal, where he signed in public a proclamation removing the barrio and its 3,000 resident families from the jurisdiction of the Philippine Army.

Leaving Malacañang at 9:30 a.m. with the First Lady and their children Gloria and Diosdado, Jr., the President was met by a big crowd led by Rep. Rufino Antonio at the entrance to Pateros town. News that the First Family of the Land had arrived, drove people from the town to the barrio site, to catch a glimpse of them. Upon arrival at Bicutan, *Te Deum* was sung in honor of the First Family at the barrio chapel,

The President signed the proclamation at 12:15 p.m. on an artistically constructed platform at the barrio's community center, to the shouts of Mabuhay, crackling fireworks, and brass band of the barrio residents.

After a luncheon tendered by the barrio officials at their resthouse in the barrio square, the President motored back to Manila, arriving in Malacañang at 1:50 p.m.

In the afternoon the President received Mrs. Victoria Cortes, a fishpond owner from Malabon, Rizal, who complained that pollution of the Tinajeros River and its tributaries was poisoning bañigus in her 22-hectare pond. Domicador Reyes, lawyer of Mrs. Cortes, said the pollution was a nuisance *per se*, resulting from the moliferation of factories along the river.

The fishing magnate requested the President to require factory owners to take steps to keep the river from being polluted. The Chief Executive said he would look into the matter.

Later in the afternoon the President played host to the 800 delegates to the 21st annual Representative Assembly of the Philippine Public School Teachers Association (PPSTA).

The National Convention of teachers-delegates which would last until May 28, opened this morning at the University of the Philippines theatre in Diliman with "Increasing International Understanding through the United Nations" as its theme.

The teachers were headed by PPSTA President Alfredo Andal, and accompanied by former Senator Geronima T. Pecson, who was the keynote speaker at the convention opening.

**May 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received this morning a total of 26 Congressmen who saw him on problems of their respective districts.

The President also received a delegation of Liberal Party mayors and leaders from western Pangasinan towns who pledged their unconditional support for his re-election. The pledge was embodied in a formal resolution which said that the President, "through his wise and able stewardship of state, has given the Filipinos the hope and expectation of a better and more abundant life."

The resolution stated that the President had managed to build "a favorable image" of the country among the free nations of the world. It further stated that in spite of party bickerings, political intrigues, and non-constructive criticisms from self-styled oppositionists, the President "remains unperturbed and continues to dedicate all his time and efforts for the progress" of the country and its people.

Gov. Francisco Q. Duque and Board Member Antonio de Guzman accompanied the delegation. Also with the group were PSC Commissioner Alex de Guzman, CIR Judge Amando Bugayon, MPD Chief Eduardo Quintos, and Carlos Bengzon from DBP.

Later in the morning the President administered the oaths of office to Dr. Juan Salcedo as chairman of the National Science Development Board, and Amirbahar H. Jaafar, former division superintendent of schools in Sulu as member of the Board of National Education. The nominations of Dr. Salcedo and Jaafar were recently confirmed by the Commission on Appointments.

The oath taking of Dr. Salcedo was witnessed by Mrs. Salcedo and children, Joselito, Dolores, Rosa-Lina, and Elvie.

Rep. Salih Ututalum of Sulu accompanied Jaafar to the President. Jaafar's induction was also witnessed by members of his family and friends.

Forty-three provincial and city treasurers and assessors whose appointments had also been confirmed recently also took their oaths of office before the Chief Executive. Accompanied to Malacañang by Acting Finance Secretary Jorge Labayo, those inducted were:

Provincial treasurers Jose Guerrero, Albay; Evaristo Langbayan, Batanes; Dionisio Borja, Bohol; Matias Reyes, Bulacan; Luis Llauder, Bukidnon; Primitivo Rondina, Davao; Pedro Cabildo, Ilocos Norte; Gonzalo Pineda, Marinduque; Felino Belen, Masbate; Conrado Estrella, La Union; Cecilio Sager, Occidental Mindoro; Paulino Ganda, Oriental Mindoro; Zoilo Balmaceda, Sorsogon; and Valentin Escudero, Nueva Ecija;

City treasurers Aguedo Hernandez, Angeles, Modesto Piencenaves, Butuan; Amado Oliveros, Caloocan; Juan La Torre, Calbayog; Santiago Eisma, Dapitan; Conrado Bootan, Legaspi; Gabriel Africa, Lipa; Daniel Tuazon, Iligan; Domado Alonto, Marawi; Demetrio Dichoso, Naga; Leonardo Casipit, Dagupan; and Serafin Fule, San Pablo;

Provincial assessors Honorio Salvatera, Cagayan; Ernesto de Jesus, Camarines Norte; Ukat Gulo, Cotabato; Artemio Medina, Cavite; Arturo R. Calapas, Laguna; Raymundo Santos, Nueva Ecija; Zosimo Mendoza, Oriental Mindoro; Damian Fadri, Romblon; Eusebio Agustin, Tarlac; Felisberto Rabulan, Zamboanga del Norte;

City assessors Justino Surla, Angeles, Jose Siangio, Caloocan; Loreto Durano, Danao; Iluminado Romero, Legaspi; Angel Tiambeng, Manila; Juan Ticsen, San Pablo; and Rufo Echon, Manila.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive received the letters of credence of His Excellency Koun Wick, ambassador-designate of Cambodia to the Philippines. The new ambassador, who replaced Ambassador Poc Thieun, was accompanied to Malacañang by Minister Eduardo L. Rosal, chief of protocol of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The presentation rites were witnessed by members of the Cabinet led by Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado D. Cayco.

After the ceremony the President presided over the regular meeting of his Cabinet.

President Macapagal signed tonight the reappointment of Rufino G. Hechanova as secretary of finance in a move that reflected the popular will and upheld the basic prerogative of a Chief of State to choose the members of his Cabinet. Since Congress is in session, the President extended to Hechanova an appointment, which was on an "acting and nomination" basis.

Hechanova is scheduled to take his oath before the President at 6 p.m. tomorrow.

Upon being notified of the passing away of India Prime Minister Nehru, President Macapagal sent a message of condolence to the people of India,

**May 28.**—THIS morning the President had breakfast with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal and DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo. During the breakfast Chairman Lorenzo invited the President and the First Lady to the laying of the cornerstone of a DBF branch in Makati, Rizal, on June 15.

Later in the morning the President, together with the First Lady, motored to the residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg, in San Juan, Rizal, where he received provincial and municipal delegations which consulted him on local problems, including public works projects and appointments of local officials.

A delegation of independent Liberals from Abra headed by Gov. Carmelo Barbero also pledged its support to the President if he should decide to run for re-election next year, "whatever the political climate in Luzon may be."

Barbero said they were pledging their loyalty and support to the Chief Executive "without any price tag" because "we know we will have fair treatment under your leadership."

While still in San Juan, the President signed a proclamation setting aside 293 hectares of the Maria Cristina military reservation for the Capitol site of Lanao del Norte. A delegation headed by Gov. Ali Dimaporo and Iligan City Mayor Camilo Cabili witnessed the signing of the proclamation.

Lanao del Norte has not had a capitol site since the division of Lanao province in 1959. Its provincial offices are in the former community center in Iligan City.

The President left San Juan at 11:30 a.m. for Malacañang before proceeding to the “Walkers” affair.

President Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker at the celebration of President’s Day by the Escolta Walking Corporation at the Botica Boie this noon, and at the induction of the newly-elected officers of the Mindanao-Sulu-Palawan Association (MINSUPALA) at the Manila Hotel this evening.

In his speech before the “Walkers” the President deplored the opposition’s refusal to pass the Rice and Corn Bill. The President was introduced to his fellow “Walkers” by Primitivo Lovina, EWC honorary president.

At the MINSUPALA affair the President was introduced by CFI Judge Ramon O. Nolasco, who also acted as master of ceremonies. Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, association president, delivered his inaugural address immediately after the induction rites.

The President submitted today to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation the nominations of Arsenio I. Martinez and Ansberto Paredes as presiding judge and associate judge, respectively, of the Court of Industrial Relations.

Martinez is at present an associate judge of the CIR, having been appointed to that position by the late President Magsaysay.

A professor of law in a number of colleges and universities in Manila and the suburbs, Judge Martinez is being nominated to succeed Presiding CIR Judge Jose S. Bautista, retired.

A practicing lawyer, Paredes had been councilor and then vice-mayor of Pasay City. He is being nominated to succeed Martinez as associate judge of the CIR.

**May 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today spent a major portion of his day attending to a total of 3,514 “Common Man’s Day” callers who saw him on their respective problems. Assisted by the First Lady and the “Common Man’s Day” staff headed by Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar, the President heard the problems of the callers at the Malacañang Heroes Hall from 8 a.m. to 2:40 p.m.

Later in the afternoon following a brief rest from the back-breaking chore of attending to his numerous callers, the President administered the oath to Rufino G. Hechanova as acting Secretary of Finance. Hechanova was renominated by the Chief Executive as acting finance boss the other day following the by-passing of his appointment by the Commission on Appointments during the last regular session.

Some 300 ranking government officials, leaders of business and banking, finance department personnel, and members of the inductee’s family attended the induction ceremony held at the Malacañang reception hall.

After inducting Secretary Hechanova, the President held a formal conference with newsmen covering Malacañang.

Meanwhile, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes said today that among those who were by-passed by the Commission on Appointments and who have been reappointed or redesignated, aside from Hechanova, are the following: Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, Commissioner of Immigration Martiniano Vivo, Government Corporate Counsel Tomas Matic, Commissioner of Fisheries Arsenio Roldan, Jr., Bureau of Forestry Director

Apolonio Rivera, Bureau of Supply Coordinator Cornelio Ledda, Finance Undersecretary Jorge Labayo, and MRR Chairman of the Board of Directors Fernando E. V. Sison.

The Palace spokesman said only the appointments of Secretary Hechanova and Secretary Feliciano have been sent to the Commission on Appointments so far because the President wants priority action on the appointment of Cabinet members.

**May 30.**—THE President attended today the meeting of the Liberal Party national directorate at the Malacañang Park which saw Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal elected as LP president. Present at the meeting which lasted from 9:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., were some 480 LP leaders from all over the country.

In his speech before the directorate the President predicted an LP victory in the 1965 polls.

Resuming their meeting in the afternoon, the members of the directorate unanimously passed a resolution endorsing the President's re-election. The resolution was read by Justice Secretary Salvador L. Marino, LP secretary-general, and seconded by Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun.

Before attending the meeting the President motored to the residence of Rep. Floro Crisologo on Heroes Hill in San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City, to join in the funeral rites for the solon's daughter. Consuelo, who died in a vehicular accident in Italy recently.

In the afternoon, after the meeting of the LP national directorate, the President, motored to Fort Bonifacio where he was guest speaker at the Memorial Day ceremonies fit the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial. Accompanied by the First Lady the President left Malacañang at 4 p.m. They returned to the Palace at 5:45 p.m.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



**President's Week in Review: May 31 - June 6, 1964**

## **President's Week in Review: June 7-13, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was host at breakfast this morning to Indonesian President Sukarno and party, shortly before they left Tokyo after a three-day visit here.

With the two Presidents during breakfast at the state dining hall in Malacañang were Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado Cayco, Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez, Tomas Benitez, Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr. Subandrio, Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak of Indonesia to the Philippines, Commander-in-Chief of the Indonesian Army Lt. Gen. Achmad Jani, Indonesian Minister Suprajogi for Public Works, Deputy State Secretary Santoso of Indonesia, and Messrs. Suwito and Dasaad.

Immediately after breakfast the President escorted the Indonesian Chief of State to the Manila International Airport where he bade him godspeed.

The Chief Executive worked on pending official papers the rest of the day.

At 6:30 in the evening the President heard mass at the Malacañang Chapel. With the President during the mass were the First Lady, their children Arturo, and Diosdado, Jr., and Lt. Isabelo Floresca, Presidential aide.

**June 8.**—THE President spent the whole morning today working on official papers. He also signed Executive Order No. 95, recreating the Peace and Amelioration Fund Commission.

President Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker this afternoon at the formal opening of the Philippine Veterans Bank in Intramuros. Primitivo Lovina, PVB president, introduced the President.

The First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon. She was assisted by Mesdames Lourdes A. Medalla and Nelly M. Lovina.

The veterans bank has the distinction of being the first institution of its kind in the world.

Present at the inaugural ceremonies were ranking government officials, business and civic leaders, and thousands of veterans who are stockholders of the bank.

The President and the First Lady were fetched from Malacañang by Col. Simeon C. Medalla, PVB chairman of the board.

Earlier this afternoon the President received the credentials of Dr. Han Lih-Wu, new Chinese ambassador to the Philippines, in ceremonies held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

In his response to the remarks of the Chinese ambassador during the presentation rites, the President expressed the conviction that defense against alien ideologies "should rest primarily on an economically free and prosperous people."

Accompanied by Minister Eduardo Rosal, chief of protocol of the foreign affairs department. Ambassador Han was accorded military honors upon his arrival in Malacañang by a company of the Presidential Guards Battalion.

Present at the presentation ceremonies were members of the Cabinet headed by Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado D. Cayco.

**June 9.**—THIS noon the President he'd a luncheon conference with bipartisan foreign policy advisory committee at the State banquet hall in Malacañang.

President Macapagal received this afternoon United States Ambassador William E. Stevenson, who called to say good-bye prior to his leaving for the United States.

The American envoy ends 28 months of service as representative of his country here. He will leave Sunday, June 14. For parting, gifts the President gave the American ambassador a Paete woodcarving of the Holy Family and a fountain pen set with the President's name engraved on it.

The Chief Executive sailed for Iloilo City this evening.

**June 10.**—THIS morning, while on board the *RPS Soliman*, the Chief Executive busied himself working on state papers as it cruised leisurely west of Antique on the way to Iloilo City.

The President spent a restful night last night. The trip had been smooth. He was accompanied by Acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes. He was seen off at the Philippine Navy wharf yesterday evening by the First Lady and his son Diosdado Jr.

President Macapagal arrived in Iloilo City at 4 p.m. today to attend Archbishop Jose Cuenco's 'golden' sacerdotal celebration. The President debarked from *R.P.S Soliman* at the Iloilo City pier after a 22-hour sailing from Manila. He was met by a sizeable crowd composed of provincial and city officials and civic groups.

From the city pier- the President motored to the Iloilo Cathedral for the liturgical reception which was followed by a popular reception at the Cathedral's seminary. The President proceeded to a reception in his honor by Mayor Reinerio Ticao at the Casino Español. He had dinner with Gov. Rafael Palomares.

Late this evening the President spoke before a huge rally at the city. He is expected to return to Manila on Friday in time for the celebration of the 66th anniversary of Philippine Independence.

**June 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today, in his capacity as commander- in-chief, conferred on Monsignor Jose Maria Cuenco, archbishop of Jaro, Iloilo, the Philippine Legion of Honor, (officer's rank) for "his dedicated service to the cause of the resistance movement in Panay Island during the Japanese occupation." The award was presented to the Catholic prelate at simple rites held after the testimonial breakfast tendered in his honor. The presentation ceremonies were held at the Pius XII Institute where breakfast was also served.

Earlier the President and the First Lady were sponsors at the Pontifical thanksgiving mass celebrated by the Jaro Archbishop himself, for his Golden Sacerdotal Jubilee yesterday.

The First Lady arrived in Iloilo City yesterday afternoon on board the presidential plane *Common Man*, accompanied by Mesdames Cornelio Balmaceda, Salvador Marino, and Ramon Tabiana, and Brig. Gen. Victor Dizon, Malacañang senior aide. The President, together with Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and others, met the First Lady and her party at the city airport.

Immediately after the testimonial breakfast, the Chief Executive boarded the Philippine Navy destroyer *Rajah Soliman* for the return trip to Manila. He was seen off by the First Lady, who stayed behind for luncheon at the Jaro metropolitan seminary where she was a special guest.

Shortly before the Navy destroyer lifted anchor, the President held a brief interview with Malacañang newsmen accompanying him in the trip at the quarter deck of the ship.

Among other things, he announced during the interview the designation of Labor Relations Director Onofre Guevarra as acting Labor Secretary in the absence of Secretary Bernardino Abes, who is attending the International Labor Organization meeting in Geneva.

The President spent the rest of the day on board the *Rajah Soliman* going over pending official papers brought by his aides. He is expected to arrive in Manila in time to attend the Philippine Independence Day celebration tomorrow.

**June 12.**—THE day's activities started at 9 a.m. today when the President arrived on board the *RPS Rajah Soliman* from Iloilo where he and the First Lady were sponsors at the golden sacerdotal jubilee of Msgr. Jose Ma. Cuenco, archbishop of Jaro.

From the Navy landing the President proceeded directly to Malacañang for breakfast with United States Ambassador and Mrs. William E. Stevenson, who had come to bid him and Mrs. Macapagal goodbye. Ambassador Stevenson ended more than two years of service as US representative to the Philippines. Present at the breakfast was acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Librado Cayco.

Shortly after the breakfast at 10 a.m. the First Couple motored to the National Libraries building on T. Kalaw Street where the First Lady cut the ribbon that opened to public view the Philippine Progress 1962-64 exposition which depicts advances in Philippine industry, agriculture, employment, moral regeneration, land reform, and other fields. The President and the First Lady, under the guidance of PIA's Armand Fabella and NMPC Director Jose Arcellana, toured the exposition and expressed satisfaction with what they saw.

After a hurried lunch at Malacañang the President and the First Lady proceeded to the Quirino memorial grandstand for the Independence Day celebrations. They arrived in front of the grandstand at 2:30 p.m. preceded by motorcycles of the Manila police department and snappy stepping stallions from the Army's cavalry unit.

After receiving honors from and smartly reviewing his honor guard, the President, in a natty gray suit and black tie, proceeded to his place in the grandstand where, a few minutes later, he expounded on the subject the *Fullness of Freedom*.

In his address the President called upon the nation's rich to "view with understanding" the things he was doing to lift the poor lest, he said, the nation be faced with the alternative of "violent protest rather than peaceful reform."

After his 40-minute speech the President watched, with evident enjoyment, contingents of the Armed Forces and representatives of government and business firms march past the grandstand. He was especially attracted by the squadron of PAF jet planes which kept flying past the grandstand.

After the celebration the President returned to Malacañang for conferences with top congressional and executive leaders which lasted up to 7:30 p.m.

He and the First Lady then received dignitaries at the Independence Day state dinner in Malacañang.

**June 13.** —PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Tokyo this morning for the tripartite meeting with President Sukarno of Indonesia and Malaysian Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman on the Malaysia question. He landed at the Tokyo International Airport aboard the P.A.L. Jetliner *Sampaguita* with Rep. Jovito Salonga, Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes, Brig. Gen. Victor Dizon, senior aide and military adviser to the President, and a group of Manila newspapermen. The President left Manila at 1:30 this morning aboard the *Sampaguita* Jetliner.

On hand to welcome the President were Japanese officials headed by Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda and Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ohira, Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauvo Mendez, Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez, Pedro Mendez, charge d'Affaires, and members of the Filipino community.

After acknowledging the greetings of his welcomers, the President motored to the Philippine Ambassador's residence where he will stay during his sojourn in Japan.

Following a brief rest, the President had breakfast with President Sukarno at the old Imperial Hotel where the Indonesian leader is staying. At noon he was luncheon guest of Prime Minister Ikeda at the latter's official residence in Nagatacho, Chiyodaku.

During their luncheon talks the President expressed his appreciation for the interest that Prime Minister Ikeda has shown in the Malaysia question and in his efforts to help solve the problem. The President said he was aware that both Malaysia and Indonesia have the same sentiment, for which reason Tokyo was chosen unanimously as the site, of the conference.

Premier Ikeda expressed the hope and prayed for the success of the meeting. He said that even if the meeting does not turn out well, it is at least the beginning of a series of meetings that might lead to the solution of the problem of the region.

Ikeda also renewed his invitation to the President to make a state visit to Japan. The President said he is looking forward to such an occasion.

The Japanese Prime Minister recalled his visit to the Philippines, including the "wonderful" reception accorded him when he and his party visited Calamba on Rizal's birthday. He expressed the same appreciation for the reception accorded Crown Prince Akihito and Crown Princess Michiko during the royal couple's state visit to the Philippines.

The President said such receptions were indicative of the Filipino people's basic feeling of friendship for Japan.

After the luncheon conference which started at 12:30 and ended at 2 p.m. the President motored back to the Philippine Ambassador's residence where he met with Manila newsmen accompanying him.

Then he called the day off for a much needed rest after a four-hour dawn flight from Manila.

President Macapagal has proclaimed Friday, June 19, this year, as a special public holiday in commemoration of the 103rd birth anniversary of Dr. Jose P. Rizal, Malacañang announced today.

The President signed the proclamation shortly before boarding the Philippine Air Lines jetliner *Sampaguita* which took him to Tokyo early this morning to attend the tripartite summit conference among the Maphilindo countries.

*Source: Supreme Court Library*

## **President's Week in Review: June 14-20, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, while awaiting the arrival of Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaysia, met in Tokyo with some Philippine provincial governors and city mayors and discussed the potentialities of the Philippines for economic growth.

It was brought out during the conference that time and effort should be devoted more to economic development than to aimless talks and debates.

The Philippine local officials are in Tokyo to attend a conference on metropolitan planning in Asia, which started June 7 and ended yesterday. They noted that there was so much economic progress in Japan which could easily be duplicated in the Philippines.

The President said that while some funds should be allocated to small projects, the government should concentrate its efforts on major projects that will produce massive effects on the nation's economy. The Chief Executive expressed gratification that his efforts in injecting economic thinking and economic development are bearing fruits, as evidenced by the local executives' attitude toward economic development. He said attention was at last being focused on what the Administration was doing.

Those who called on the Chief Executive were Govs. Arsenio L. Villarosa of Occidental Mindoro, Rafael Palmares of Iloilo, Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, Jose Villarama of Bulacan, and Rene Espina of Cebu; and Mayors Mario L. Tagarao of Lucena City and Zacarias A. Ticson of San Pablo City.

After meeting with the local executives the President heard mass at the living room of the Philippine Ambassador's residence in Tokyo. With the President during the mass were the governors and city mayors, Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Mauro Mendez, Brig. Gen. Victor Dizon, senior aide and military adviser to the President, and Manila newsmen and embassy officials headed by Ambassador Pedro Ramirez, charge d'affairs in Tokyo.

The President, together with Indonesian President Sukarno, is still awaiting Prime Minister Rahman, who is scheduled to arrive in Tokyo tonight.

Meanwhile, the President had preliminary talks yesterday with Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak, who is already in Tokyo.

**June 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conducted today explanatory discussions on possible ways and means of bringing about a peaceful settlement of the problems between Indonesia and Malaysia. He met with Malaysia's Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman at breakfast which lasted from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and with Indonesian President Sukarno which started at 7 p.m. Both occasions took place at the Philippine Ambassador's residence in Tokyo.

Present in both conferences on the Philippine side were Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez and Ambassador S. P. Lopez. With Rahman at the breakfast meeting were Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak of Malaysia and Malaysian Ambassador to Japan Syed Sheh Shahabuddin. With Sukarno at the dinner conference were Indonesian Foreign Minister Subandrio and Ambassador Harsono Reksoatmodjo.

It was held that points arising out of the discussions would be of help to the foreign ministers when they meet to work out the agenda for the summit meeting. Discussions will be continued at the Malaysian embassy at 9 a.m. tomorrow around the breakfast table.

The arrival of the Tunku in Tokyo last night signalled the start of activities aimed at reconciling the Maphilindo countries.

*June 16.*—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred for the second time today with Malaysia Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman in an effort to achieve a meeting of minds between Indonesia and Malaysia that could pave the way for the holding of the summit meeting and resolve the crisis between the two countries.

The breakfast with Prime Minister Rahman was held at the Malaysian Embassy in Tokyo. The President earlier met the Prime Minister at breakfast held at the Philippine Ambassador's residence in that city yesterday.

The meeting this morning is part of the series of exploratory talks, the result of which will serve as guide for the foreign ministers when they meet to discuss the agenda of the summit meeting.

Also present in this morning's meeting were Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez, Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez, and Rep. Jovito R. Salonga on the Philippine side, and Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak, Minister Ghazali, and Ambassador Syed Sheh Shahabudin on the Malaysia side.

The Chief Executive arrived at the Malaysian Embassy at 9 a.m. He was met at the embassy steps by the Malaysian Prime Minister. After brief informal talks, they sat down at the breakfast table.

From the Malaysian Embassy, the President returned to the Philippine Ambassador's residence where he went over bills passed during the last regular session of Congress and submitted to him for approval.

President Macapagal signed into law in Tokyo today 12 House bills as he worked on state papers when not engaged in Malaysia talks.

*June 17.*—PRESIDENT Macapagal kept patiently waiting in Tokyo for word from the North Borneo frontier about the start of a token withdrawal by Indonesian guerrillas from Malaysian territory. But towards noon time nothing had been heard from the Thai verification team that was to set up a checkpoint within the first administrative division of Malaysia's Sarawak state which may flash the signal for the opening of the pre-summit ministerial talks in Tokyo.

As the time moved on at the Philippine ambassador's residence where President Macapagal is staying for the much-delayed Malaysian summit, he called for his special trouble-shooter, Salvador P. Lopez, to get the Malaysians and Indonesians agree on the start of the ministerial talks.

On his fifth day in Tokyo, the Philippine President, who has assumed the role of mediator in the shooting row between Malaysia and Indonesia, clung to seesawing hopes that the much-desired summit would still be held.

President Macapagal took up with Lopez the views and proposals the Philippines intended to discuss during the ministerial talks.

Between these talks with his special ambassador, the President signed, vetoed, or allowed certain bills to lapse into laws. He had taken along the bills with him to race against the June 20 deadline for acting on them.

Serving as the overseas workshop for the President's biggest jobs to do is a cubicle, the smallest room in the ambassador's residence.

President Macapagal has proclaimed Wednesday, June 24, this year, as a special public holiday in Manila on the occasion of *Araw ng Maynila*, or Manila Foundation Day.

Proclamation No. 257, signed by the President shortly before he left for Tokyo last week noted that during the past two years, Manila "has fittingly observed June 24 as its founding anniversary with indications that this will be a continuing tradition."

The President said that “this yearly celebration accentuates Manila’s historical role as a symbol of our national unity and indeed, the very seat of our national identity.”

**June 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal will observe the 103rd anniversary of Dr. Jose Rizal tomorrow by making a floral offering at the Rizal marker in Hibiya Park, Tokyo.

He is also scheduled later in the day to receive members of the Filipino community in Tokyo at the Philippine chancery later in the day, but this might be cancelled because, according to acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes, the President wanted “to devote more time to considering” the bills passed by Congress in the last regular session.

Except for a brief meeting with Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez, who reported on the results of the foreign ministers’ meeting, the President spent the whole day going over the bills which acting Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio brought from Manila.

The President stayed from dawn today up to late this evening closetted in the private study of the Philippine Ambassador’s residence in Tokyo, working on the bills with Cancio. The President completed action today on 141 bills.

**June 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent most of the day in his private study at the Philippine Ambassador’s residence in Tokyo acting on bills passed by Congress during the last regular session. As of noon today the Chief Executive has approved a total of 24 out of 345 with Malacañang, leaving some 100 more for executive action.

Thirty-one more bills arrived from Manila today while 30 arrived last night. Thirty-seven are on the President’s desk.

The Chief Executive has been working almost continuously on measures from early morning to late in the evening to beat the deadline for executive action on them. Midnight tomorrow is the deadline set by law.

At 10:15 this morning the President motored to Hibira Park, where he laid floral offerings at the memorial marker of the national hero, Dr. Jose Rizal, in observance of Rizal’s 103rd birthday.

The marker and the botanical park where it stands are situated in the place where the Tokyo Hotel in which the hero stayed in 1888, used to stand. The marker was unveiled in 1961.

After one minute of silent prayer before the marker, and after greeting members of the Filipino community present at the Park, the President motored back to the Ambassador’s residence to resume work on bills.

With the President in making floral offerings were Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Mauro Mendez, Ambassador Pedro Ramirez, and DFA Chief of Protocol Eduardo Rosal.

At noon the Chief Executive was luncheon guest of Emperor Hirohito and Empress Hanako at the Imperial Palace.

Also at the luncheon were Sec. and Mrs. Mendez, Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez, Rep. Jovito Salonga, and Brig. Gen. Victor Dizon, senior aide and military adviser to the President.

With the Emperor and Empress were Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko, and Japanese Foreign Minister and Mrs. Masayoshi Ohira.

Fetches from the Ambassador’s residence by Mr. Gotto, protocol officer of the Imperial Palace, the Chief Executive rode to the palace and back to the Ambassador’s residence on a black Rolls Royce limousine of the royal family.



Back at the Ambassador's residence at 2 p.m., the President received Ken Harada, Palace grandmaster of ceremonies, who returned the President's call, on behalf of the royal couple.

The President then resumed his work on bills till evening.

**June 20.**—THE President acted today on a total of 33 additional bills as he availed of his free time during the summit meeting which started at 9:45 a.m. at the official residence of Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda in Tokyo.

The Chief Executive worked on bills today after an early morning breakfast up to 9:45 a.m. when he motored to the Premier's residence for the tripartite talks.

After lunch at the Philippine ambassador's residence, the President resumed work on bills up to 3:45 p.m. when he again left for the site of the summit meeting.

The President approved an additional 21 bills and vetoed 12 this afternoon. As of 3:45 p.m., the President had acted upon a total of 259 measures out of 345 passed during the regular session of Congress.

Wearing a brown suit, the President was the first to arrive at the Ikeda residence among the chiefs of state. About one minute later, Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaysia arrived followed by Indonesian President Sukarno some four minutes later. Premier Rahman was in a dark suit while President Sukarno wore a white air marshall's uniform with a black fez and swagger stick.

The morning talks which lasted about one and one-half hours was held at a rectangular yellow-carpeted room in the first floor of the Ikeda residence.

Seated around a rectangular mahogany table was President Macapagal with Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez at his right and Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez at his left.

On a sofa to the President's right were President Sukarno with Foreign Minister Subandrio and another adviser while to the President's left sat Premier Rahman with Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak and Minister Ghazali.

Immediately after the afternoon summit sessions, the President; returned to the Philippine ambassador's residence and buckled down to work on bills in order to meet the midnight deadline provided by law for executive consideration of the measures.

*Source: Supreme Court Library*

## **President's Week in Review: June 21-27, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal vetoed in Tokyo last night the telecom bill because “it is an infringement on the freedom of the press. He also vetoed the Armed Forces retirement bill because its consequences tend to imperil “our sound and stable democracy.”

The President acted on all the bills before the midnight deadline. He stayed up to almost 4 a.m. today to prepare the veto messages.

The President vetoed some 30 of the more than 300 bills which Congress passed in its regular session, and signed the rest in accordance with his desire “to act personally on each bill and not allow any of them to lapse into law.”

Among the outstanding bills which the President approved before midnight deadline last night were (1) the school calendar bill authored by Senator Maria Kalaw Katigbak, (2) House Bill 11031 designed to help some seven million persons in the North dependent on the Virginia Tobacco industry, and (3) HB 7585 converting the Motor Vehicles Office into the Land Transportation Commission.

In his veto message on the retirement bill the President said the advantages which the bill might bring would be more than offset by the “peril it poses to the stability and security of our democracy.”

He said the bill would “radically” affect the status and tenure of incumbent officers in the Armed Forces, particularly in the top echelons, as the service of academy graduates would be extended by three to four years without the same benefit being extended to the “integers.”

“Such a consequence would not be in the interest of sound and stable democracy,” he said. “Indeed, it would tend to undermine our democratic system of government, for if the status and tenure of officers can be so easily changed by legislation, it will not be difficult to see that any clique of officers may be tempted to align itself with political groups to achieve that purpose and thereby upset the roster or table of organization of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.”

He also said there was no basis to the fear that the experienced and trained officers who are retired at the relatively young ages of 47 to 52 years would be “lost to the country.” On the contrary, he said, private industry is in dire need of top executives and civilian management positions are crying out to be filled.

He added that at this time when the nation is vigorously prosecuting a Five-Year Socio-Economic Development Program based on private enterprises, there is great demand and much need for managers with the training and experience of the military retirees. Besides, he said, retired officers are still subject to call to active military duty any time the President deems their services to be necessary.

In vetoing the telecom measure, President Macapagal said the bill was an infringement on the freedom of the press and against the principle of free enterprise.

On the Katigbak school calendar bill, the President said he approved the measure, which will take effect next year, because he could not ignore the “categorical legislative policy” on the matter.

The President signed the tobacco bill in the presence of Rep. Floro Crisologo (L-Ilocos Sur), who flew to Tokyo especially to plead for the measure.

Crisologo told the President that the measure would benefit some seven million people in the North who are dependent on tobacco. The bill is designed to promote the Virginia tobacco industry. The President was profusely thanked by Crisologo after the signing of the bill.

MVO Administrator Apolinario Ponio also went to Tokyo to request the approval of the land transportation bill.

The President studied and acted on the bills in a small study room at the Philippine Ambassador's residence. Malacañang forwarded the bills to Tokyo as they were received from Congress. In acting on the bills, the President said he disregarded authorship and based his decision "purely on the merits of the individual bills."

The Chief Executive woke up late this morning after working practically all night preparing veto messages after he had acted on bills before the midnight deadline set by law.

All the remaining bills passed by Congress during the last regular session not acted upon by the President before he left for the Tokyo summit were sent there by Acting Executive Secretary Zaldivar for the President's action.

The President had a late breakfast in his room at the Ambassador's residence in Tokyo.

After breakfast the Chief Executive heard mass said at an improvised altar at the living room in the Ambassador's residence.

He had lunch with officials of the Philippine embassy in Tokyo and the members of his party.

After his afternoon rest the President gave a radio-television interview at the living room of the Ambassador's residence.

Tomorrow morning at 8:45, he is scheduled to address the Foreign Correspondents Club. He will return to Manila at 2:15 p.m.

**June 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned this afternoon from Tokyo «2T where he participated in the recent Maphilindo summit and acted as mediator between the heads of the two other Maphilindo partners, Indonesian President Sukarno and Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaysia, in seeking a solution to the Malaysia issue. The President said on arrival that he felt elated that the Philippines is "now playing an active role in settling international disputes."

The President arrived at 5 p.m. aboard a PAL chartered KLM Dutch Airliner and was met by a large crowd at the Manila International Airport. The President was accompanied from Tokyo by Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes; Assistant Executive Secretary Juan Cancio; Rep. Jovito Salonga; DFA political affairs counsellor; Ambassador Emilio Bejasa; and Brig. Gen. Victor Dizon, senior aide and military adviser.

As the Chief Executive descended the plane's ramp, he was met halfway by the First Lady and Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar, who was caretaker of Malacañang during the President's absence.

The President's children, Arturo, Diosdado, Jr., and Mrs. Cielo Salgado, and his son-in-law Agustin Salgado met the Chief Executive with kisses at the foot of the ramp.

Speaker and Mrs. Cornelio Villareal, Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon, Cabinet members led by Secretary Zaldivar, and members of the diplomatic corps led by the Papal Nuncio, Msgr. Carlo Martini, formed the reception line at the airport.

Full military honors, with a 21-gun salute, were rendered the Chief Executive by an Armed Forces contingent commanded by Col. Antonio Evangelista.

After the military honors the President greeted his welcomers which included veterans groups headed by President Simeon Medalla of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines, government employees, and a delegation from Bicutan, Taguig, Rizal.

The President waved his hands to the rest of the crowd that jammed the MIA deck and the International Finger. After acknowledging the welcome greetings, the President rendered a brief preliminary report on his mission to Tokyo. He was introduced by Secretary Zaldivar

The President prefaced his report with short remarks in Pilivino in which he praised the public officials who took charge of public affairs during his absence. He referred particularly to Secretary Zaldivar, who the President said, had been the caretaker of Malacañang for the third time.

He also paid tribute to his companions to Tokyo who helped a lot in the execution of his mission, particularly the newspapermen whom the President said “proved that the Philippine press has no equal” in freedom anywhere in the world.

In Tokyo earlier this morning (8:45 a.m., Tokyo time) the President addressed the Foreign Correspondents’ Club at Maranuchi, that city, and discussed before the club the results of the summit. Afterwards the President visited the Philippine Chancery there, and then returned to the Ambassador’s residence. At the Ambassador’s residence the President received Japanese Premier Hayato Ikeda who paid a courtesy call.

The President and his party left for Manila at 2:02 p.m. (Tokyo time).

After delivering his speech at the Manila International Airport the President, accompanied by the First Lady, boarded his car and proceeded to the Rizal monument on the Luneta where he laid floral offerings. From the Luneta the President proceeded to Malacañang where he had a merienda of pineapple juice, cookies, and sandwiches at the Palace porch overlooking the Pasig River.

**June 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal closetted himself in his bedroom the whole day today and busied himself working on state papers which had piled up while he was in Tokyo in connection with the tripartite summit. He did not receive any callers.

He returned yesterday afternoon after a nine-day stay in Tokyo where he shaped up the tripartite Maphilindo summit.

While going over the state papers, the President received a telegram from the National Press Club thanking him for his veto of the controversial telecommunications bill.

Antonio Zumel, acting NPC president, wired the President and thanked him for vetoing the bill. The NPC opposed the bill, as it would infringe on the freedom of the press.

The President went over the veto messages which accompanied the 30 bills which he disapproved while in Tokyo.

The President also expected to press for the report of acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar on Deputy Postmaster General Belarmino P. Navarro, President Macapagal’s former classmate, who had denounced the newspapermen for criticizing him in banning some magazines from the mail.

**June 24.**—THIS morning the President received 14 members of Congress & who took up local matters with him. He also received a group of Korean officials who paid him a courtesy call.

Accompanied by Korean Ambassador Yang Soo Yoo the Korean officials were Hyun Chul Kim, adviser to the President and chairman of the commission on research for administrative reform; Souck Jae Lee, minister of government administration; and Congressman Chi Song Yoo. They had been in the country for a week studying Philippine administrative procedure for adoption by the Republic of Korea in its governmental administrative reform.

The President also received Mayor Antonio J. Villegas and Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda who reported on their respective trips abroad.

Villegas went on a 40-day study tour of American and European cities, while Balmaceda headed a Philippine delegation to the United Nations conference on trade and development held in Geneva from March 23 to June 15.

The President was interested in Villegas' observations on modern water and highway system abroad that could be adopted in the Philippines. He was thanked by Villegas for proclaiming today a special holiday in Manila to give the city populace the opportunity to observe the 393rd foundation anniversary of the city.

In his report to the President, Balmaceda said the UN trade and development conference was a "very important and historic one" and that the Philippines was given one of the seats allocated to Asians in the newly-formed Trade and Development Board under the UN.

President Macapagal congratulated the city officials and employees of Manila and the city residents on the 393rd anniversary of the founding of the city. In extemporaneous remarks in Pilipino at ceremonies which climaxed the foundation celebration this day, the President commended the city officials for their bipartisan cooperation for the interest of Manila and its residents.

The President left Malacañang 3:20 p.m. with Mayor Antonio Villegas, who had come to fetch him.

In the evening the President and the First Lady tendered a farewell dinner in honor of Argentine Ambassador and Mrs. Raul Rodriguez-Araya.

**June 25.**—THE President received this morning Major General Tran Thien Khiem, South Vietnam's defense minister and first vice-chairman of the military revolutionary council, who paid him a courtesy call. Gen. Khiem headed a six-man mission that arrived yesterday for a five-day goodwill visit and observation tour of military organizations here.

During their 15-minute talk the President and the Vietnamese defense minister discussed recent developments in strife-torn Vietnam. General Khiem expressed the gratitude of the Vietnamese people to the Filipinos for the various assistance extended them.

On the other hand, President Macapagal expressed sympathy to the Vietnamese people in their fight against Vietcong guerrillas. The President said the Philippines is also fighting its own battle against communists in the country.

With General Khiem in calling on the President were Lt. Col. Nguyen Khac Binh, Lt. Col. Cran Van Minh, Lt. Col. Win Bai Lien, Major Chan Van Nhut, and Capt. Dang Van Chau. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Vietnamese Charge d'Affaires Dolinh Tuan.

Following his meeting with General Khiem, the President, together with the First Lady, motored to the residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg, in San Juan, Rizal, where he received callers from 9:45 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.

The majority of the callers were provincial and municipal officials who consulted him on local problems on party matters. Among them were Gov. Manuel Barreto of Zambales, Jose Aquino of Agusan, and Antonio Mayuga of Romblon; Provincial Board Member Ismael Laud of Lanao del Sur; and Mayors Porfirio Royo of Kapalong, Aniceto Solis of Sto. Tomas, and Angel Y. Earr of Malalag, all of Davao province.

The Davao mayors headed a delegation of ward leaders who pledged their support to the President if he decided to run for re-election. They also witnessed the induction into the Liberal Party of Compostela Mayor Pio Galenzaga by the President.

After a brief siesta in the afternoon, the President went over pending official papers.

**June 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had a day of paper work as he sailed aboard this Philippine Navy patrol boat for Davao City where he will formally open the Mindanao-Sulu Commercial and Industrial Fair tomorrow. He boarded the naval vessel late this morning at the Surigao pier shortly after landing at the Surigao airport aboard the Presidential plane, The Common Man, from Manila.

A big crowd led by Mayor Pedro Espina was on hand to welcome the President upon arrival at the Surigao capital town.

On his way to the pier the President visited the Surigao PC headquarters where he also had some refreshments. He had a brief meeting with Manila newsmen accompanying him.

As soon as he had boarded the patrol ship he repaired to the captain's cabin, where he started working on a pile of official papers he had brought along. Afterwards he went down to the ship's wardroom, where he lunched with Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, who is also with the President's party. He continued to work on state papers after a brief siesta in the afternoon.

The President is scheduled to arrive in Davao City tomorrow morning.

**June 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today accused the Nacionalista opposition in the Senate of trying to make political capital out of the miseries and needs of the people for its "refusal to provide his administration with standby authority to import rice amidst a threatening cereal crisis and for its failure to enact a public works bill during the last regular and special sessions."

The Chief Executive hurled the charge in the course of an extemporaneous speech before a large group of welcomers upon his arrival in Davao City this noon to officiate in the opening of the Mindanao-Sulu commercial and trade fair.

The President said that the Nacionalista senators refused to go along with the Administration proposal empowering him to import rice so that the masses in their hunger will turn against his administration.

Accompanied by Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, the President landed at the Sasa wharf at 10 a.m. aboard the EPS Pangasinan.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: June 28 – July 4, 1964

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**June 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal busied himself today aboard the *RPS Pangasinan* working on state papers while enroute to Ormoc City where he is scheduled to officiate at the laying of the cornerstone of a new government center tomorrow afternoon.

The Chief Executive stayed almost the whole day in the captain's cabin. He started working on state paper in the morning after breakfast, after reading the morning digest sent to him by Malacañang. He continued working on official papers in the afternoon after a brief siesta.

At eight this evening the *RPS Pangasinan* was cruising along Hinatuan Passage. The President was scheduled to land in Ormoc City tomorrow morning.

**June 29.**—ORMOC CITY which is celebrating its fiesta in honor of Saints Peter and Paul accorded President Macapagal warm and enthusiastic welcome upon his arrival there this morning aboard the PN patrol ship *RPS Pangasinan* to inaugurate the BIR branch there and to attend the fiesta celebration.

A big cheering crowd led by Mayor Esteban Conejos, Gov. Norberto Romualdez, Jr., and Rep. Dominador Tan jammed the city wharf in spite of the drizzle to meet the Chief Executive.

The backlash of typhoon Dading which brought continuous drizzle and threatening rain later in the day failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the people who filled to overflowing the city auditorium to hear the President explain his predicament and expound on initial successes of his socio-economic program.

In his speech President Macapagal today asked the people to draw a lesson from what is happening to him by electing members of Congress who belong to the party of the President.

The President made this exhortation in a rally this evening after citing the series of harassments being made against him by the opposition senators who, he said, are bent in making him fail as President rather than help the people.

The latest of these harrassments, according to him, which started immediately after his election, when they tried to block his proclamation as President, was their refusal to authorize him to import rice to make the people turn against him when hunger strikes.

**June 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today mobilized the entire government machinery to extend immediate and effective assistance to typhoon sufferers.

Upon orders of the President, Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar called a meeting of the Cabinet at Malacañang at 11 a.m. today with the view to coordinating all government agencies in the relief operations.

At the same time, the First Lady called a meeting of Cabinet ladies to discuss ways and means by which they can help in the relief work.

The President is now on a trip in the South.

**July 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal decided to go on with his schedule of activities in Leyte this afternoon after being informed that no plane could ferry him back to Manila before sundown.

This morning the President thought of cutting short his trip to fly back to Manila when informed of extensive damages wrought by typhoon Dading in the city and other places in Luzon. However, information from Manila later in the day said that planes would not be able to fetch him early enough in the afternoon.

The Chief Executive had hurried back to his Navy patrol ship after luncheon in Maasin, which was the center of celebration for the fourth year of provincehood of Leyte del Sur, in anticipation of an early flight to Manila.

Since he had to wait until tomorrow for the flight back to the city, the President decided to proceed with his schedule of activities in Leyte, and he sailed for San Juan town where he had been expected since early this afternoon.

**July 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today visited three Central Luzon provinces hard hit by typhoon Dading to assess personally the extent of damage wrought in the area and find out what further assistance the government could extend to them.

Upon his return from a week-long trip to the South this morning, the President motored to Bulacan, Pampanga, and Bataan, interviewed typhoon victims, and conferred with local officials.

He directed local branches of the Social Welfare Administration, health officers, Constabulary commanders, and other government relief agencies to coordinate their activities in the current effort to speed up relief operations in devastated localities.

Arriving at Mariveles, Bataan, about 3 p.m. today, the President had a view of what was left of the Philippine Navy destroyer escort, the *RPS Soliman*, which had been sunk by huge waves during the height of the typhoon while undergoing engine repairs at the NASSCO dockyard.

The Chief Executive was informed by Eduardo Mendegorin, NASSCO works manager, that Navy authorities were currently making studies whether or not to refloat the vessel.

Landing at the Nichols Air Base about 8:30 a.m. aboard an air force plane from Leyte, the President proceeded direct to Malacañang which he found a beehive of activity with laborers busy clearing the Palace grounds of uprooted trees and torn limbs.

The First Lady, who met him at the airport, recounted to the President how the Malacañang lawns had been transformed into a jungle by the destructive storm.

After a hurried breakfast, the President boarded his car and proceeded on his inspection tour of the disaster areas. Spotting some families going about rebuilding their wrecked homes, the President stopped several times in towns and barrios along the way and inquired into their needs. He asked them whether relief workers had reached their localities. The people, in turn, told the President about their harrowing experience during the storm. They thanked him for the concern he had shown in their behalf.

Arriving at Camp Olivas in San Fernando, Pampanga, about 10:30 a.m. the Chief Executive was briefed by Col. Manuel Yan, first PC Zone chief of staff, and Major Alfredo Gonzalez, deputy commander. PC Zone III, who estimated that some 120,000 houses were destroyed in the provinces of Bulacan, Pampanga, and Bataan.

The PC officers informed the President that most of the devastated homes were nipa huts and makeshift dwellings. The briefing lasted about 30 minutes. It was made with the aid of maps indicating the areas which suffered most during the typhoon.

In Lubao, Pampanga, his hometown, where he stopped briefly for lunch in the residence of former Acting Gov. Dominador Danan. the President was joined by Defense Undersecretary Alberto de Joya. who accompanied him during the rest of the trip.



The Chief Executive boarded at Mariveles a Philippine Navy patrol craft escort, the RPS Negros Occidental, which brought him off Lamao, Bataan. There he transferred to a hydrofoil launch which sped him back to Manila.

**July 3.**—THE President met today with some members of the Cabinet on the progress of relief work for the victims of the recent typhoon and pending legislation.

Present at the three-hour conference which started at 10:35 a.m. at the guesthouse Pangarap at the Malacañang Park were Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Justice Secretary Salvador L. Marino, PIA Director-General Armand Fabella, and Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio.

Before meeting with the Cabinet members, the President sent a cablegram to US President Lyndon B. Johnson felicitating the American people on the occasion of their Independence Day tomorrow.

At the same time, the President issued a message on the commemoration of Filipino-American Friendship Day tomorrow, a day which used to be observed as Philippine Independence Day.

In his message the President called upon Filipinos and Americans to reflect upon “over half a century of cooperation and collaboration between them.”

The President spent the rest of the afternoon going over official papers.

Early in the evening the President received OEC Administrator Eleuterio Adevosio, who reported on his trip to Australia, the United States, Europe, and Japan where he met with engineering consultants in connection with plans to modernize corporations under the OEC.

**July 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal officiated today at the inauguration of the first land reform project in Plaridel, Bulacan.

The occasion featured the public signing in the presence of the Chief Executive of a leasehold agreement between a landowner and a tenant, pursuant to the Agricultural Land Reform Code. It marked the start of the long-awaited act of emancipation of the nation’s farmers from the grip of misery and hardship that tenancy breeds.

The President delivered the main address during a program held at the Plaridel town plaza, while the First Lady unveiled a marker commemorating the occasion.

In his speech the President described the day as “truly a milestone in our peaceful revolution for the freedom of our people from poverty.” He asked land owners to accept “gracefully” the change from the age-old share tenancy system to a happy partnership in agriculture with the common man.

The President, together with Mrs. Macapagal and their daughter, Gloria, motored to Plaridel at 2:40 p.m. A big crowd of townfolks, mostly farmers, met the Chief Executive. He alighted from his car and shook hands with them as he negotiated the distance to the town plaza on foot.

Jubilant marked the historic occasion as the people, numbering about 2,000 waited for the public signing of the first leasehold contract between a land-owner and his tenant.

Principals in the agreement were Jose S. Mariano, a land owner, and Federico Acuña, tenant. Mariano is the owner of 56 hectares of land which is worked by five tenants.

The contract covered one and a half hectares of ricelands leased to Acuña.

After the program the President had merienda at the municipal hall where he also had a brief talk with Manila newsmen who accompanied him.

On his way back to Manila the President and the First Lady dropped at the V. Luna General Hospital to visit Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg.

This morning the First Couple had breakfast with Col. Edwin Ramsey and his family. Ramsey, a guerrilla organizer in Central Luzon, arrived yesterday for visits to friends in the Philippines.

The President spent the rest of the morning working on state papers.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: July 5-11, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**July 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today addressed his comrades in the East Central Luzon Guerrilla Association, a wartime outfit which resisted the Japanese soldiers in Luzon.

The Chief Executive recalled his days with the resistance movement and acknowledged the fact that he performed merely a minor role in the underground resistance movement. For this minor role, he said, he refused to collect his backpay although he was a recognized guerrilla officer. He received a plaque as the “most distinguished member” of the ECLGA.

President Macapagal's superior officer, Col. Edwin Ramsey, was present at the 22nd convention of the ECLGA. He honored Col. Ramsey with breakfast in Malacañang yesterday.

In receiving the award, the President said it “is one I shall cherish and prize to the last day of my life.”

The ECLGA convention was held at the Philippine Columbian clubhouse on Taft Avenue.

The President returned to Malacañang after delivering his speech. Upon his return to Malacañang, the President went over pending state papers and certified to Congress the urgency of enacting a measure repealing the controversial Republic Act No. 4065, which stripped Mayor Villegas of his powers.

Mayor Villegas has been on a political warpath and was reported considering bolting the Administration party. His powers were stripped while he was abroad.

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady heard Sunday mass at the Malacañang chapel. After hearing mass the President viewed the remains of Captain Pedro Soliman, a member of the presidential security unit, who died three days ago.

**July 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal worked on pending state papers most of the time today. In between his office work the Chief Executive met with some members of his Cabinet in the morning and with Catholic leaders and some public officials at luncheon in the afternoon.

The morning meeting took place at the Pangarap guesthouse across the Pasig River from the Palace. It lasted from 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Present at the meeting were Secretaries Rufino G. Hechanova of Finance, Salvador Marino of Justice, and Macario Peralta, Jr., of Defense; PIA Director-General Armand Fabella, Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes, and Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio.

At the luncheon conference were Archbishop Julio Rosales of Cebu, Secretaries Hechanova of Finance and Jorge Abad of Public Works, Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar, Assistant Executive Secretary Cancio, Gov. Rene Espina of Cebu, and Cebu City Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr.

The President took up at the luncheon meeting the possibility of the government's taking part in the fourth centennial observance of Christianity's propagation in the Philippines.

**July 7.**—THIS morning the President received 17 provincial governors and city mayors who took up with him problems of their respective regions.

Provincial governors of Luzon reported on the damages wrought on public and private property by the recent typhoon and requested assistance in the reconstruction of damaged school buildings, bridges, roads, and other public facilities.

Gov. Wenceslao Vinzons, Jr., of Camarines Norte requested P1.7 million from the calamity fund; Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, P500,000; and Govs. Francisco Duque of Pangasinan, Pedro Dizon of Bataan, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, and Jose Villarama of Bulacan, P1 million each.

The President assured the provincial executives that they will get their share from the additional P10 million calamity fund granted by Congress.

President Macapagal this afternoon presided over a meeting of the National Security Council at the war room of the Department of Defense in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Among those present in the meeting were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, former President Carlos P. Garcia, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez, Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, Justice Secretary Salvador L. Marino, Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes;

Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate; Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, majority floor leader of the Senate; Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar; House Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano; Rep. Godofredo Ramos, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

General Alfredo M. Santos, AFP chief of staff; Civil Defense Administrator Alfredo Eugenio; and General Marcos Soliman, chief of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency.

The President administered the oaths to Cols. Angel Legaspi and Roman Gabino as one-star generals in a ceremony held at the briefing room of the Department of Defense in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, this afternoon.

The appointments of these two new generals were confirmed by the Commission on Appointments during the second special session of Congress.

Gen. Legaspi is deputy chief of the Philippine Constabulary, while Gen. Gabino is president of the National Defense College.

The induction ceremony, which was held after the National Security Council meeting at Camp Aguinaldo, was witnessed by ranking defense and military officials headed by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and General Alfredo N. Santos, AFP chief of staff.

Following the oath-taking, the President motored to the residence of former Justice Mariano de Joya on Sierra Madre, Quezon City, to view the remains of the late justice and condole with the bereaved family.

He returned to Malacañang at about 7:30 p.m.

President Macapagal proclaimed the period from July 21 to 27, this year, as Advertising Week.

In his proclamation the President noted that advertising has grown into a vital force in the development and production of trade and commerce in the Philippines. He pointed out that "it is necessary that the significant role played by advertising in bringing about social and economic programs be brought to the attention of our people."

He added that "advertising as a tool of marketing has helped generate business, industrial activity, and employment."

**July 8.**—THIS morning the President met with 30 members of Congress headed by Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun on various matters affecting their respective districts, such as local appointments and urgent public works projects.

In the course of his meeting with the congressmen, the President swore in Mayor Bienvenido A. Marquez of Pedre Burgos, Quezon, as chairman and general manager of the Philippine Coconut Administration (Philcoa).

President Macapagal inducted into office today officials of the Court of Industrial Relations, the Mindanao Development Authority, the Social Security System, and the Philippine Coconut Administration.

In separate ceremonies at Malacañang this afternoon the President administered the oaths to Arsenio Martinez as presiding judge of the CIR former Pasay City Vice-Mayor Ansberto Paredes as associate judge of the CIR, Teofisto Guingona as member of the board of directors of the MDA and Eulogio Lerum as commissioner in the SSS.

Judge Martinez' appointment was a promotional one, as he has served as associate judge of the CIR since 1955.

Until his appointment to the MDA board, Guingona was a practicing lawyer and professor. Lerum was reappointed commissioner in the SSS.

The induction ceremonies, held one after the other, were witnessed by members of the inductee's respective families, friends, and sympathizers.

Earlier this afternoon the President received Ambassador John Mansfield Addis of Great Britain and Ambassador Johann von Stechow of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The German envoy presented to the President P50,000 as personal contribution of President Heinrich Luebke of West Germany to the victims of a recent typhoon in the Philippines.

Late in the afternoon the President presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

The President has issued a proclamation declaring Sunday, July 12, this year as Filipino Athletes Day, it was announced today by Acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes.

The President has proclaimed the day "to give Filipino athletes proper tribute and due recognition for the invaluable services they have rendered to the country in the world of sports."

He enjoined the observance of Filipino Athletes Day by civic and school organizations through appropriate ceremonies and programs.

**July 9.**—THIS morning the President had a breakfast conference with Liberal senators on the status of the bills certified by the Chief Executive for enactment during the special session.

Present at the conference held at the Palace music room were Senate Minority Floor Leader Estanislao Fernandez and Sens. Juan R. Liwag, Camilo Osias, Ambrosio Padilla, Francisco Rodrigo, Gerardo Roxas, Tecla Ziga, and Maria Kalaw Katigbak.

At 11 a.m. the President, together with the First Lady, motored to the residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg, in San Juan, Rizal, where he received callers composed mostly of municipal mayors and councilors.

The municipal officials took up with the President problems of their respective localities, which included additional school buildings, footbridges, and barrio roads.

A delegation from Bohol led by former Rep. Simeon Torribio, Calape Mayor Arsenio Damalerio, and Messrs. German Neri, Honorato Inting, Vicente Bullecer, and Zacarias Saturinas invited the President to visit their province in September to inaugurate several socio-economic projects.

In the course of his meeting with the municipal officials, the President swore into office the following officials of San Pablo City: Serafin Fule, city treasurer; Guillermo Inciong, city engineer; Rustico Manalo, chief of police; and Vicente San Pedro, fire department chief. They were accompanied by Justice Undersecretary Manuel Concordia and San Pablo City Mayor Zacarias Ticzon.

The President spent the afternoon working on official papers in his private study.

President Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker this evening of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines at its Second Annual Anvil Awards Ceremonies and Dinner at the Philamlife Open Pavilion.

Recipients of the awards for "Most outstanding public relations efforts" for 1963 were UP President Carlos P. Romulo and Teodoro Valencia, Manila Times columnist.

The President was fetched from Malacañang by E. C. Molina, PRSP president.

**July 10.**—THIS morning the President received a total of 3,136 "Common Man's Day" callers who sought his assistance on various matters. The Chief Executive attended to his callers, including 18 delegations, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at his study and later at the Malacañang Heroes Hall.

He was assisted by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, and the regular "Common Man's Day" staff.

President Macapagal motored this afternoon to Cagayan Valley where he was scheduled to attend the inauguration of several socio-economic projects.

Shortly before leaving for the North, the President called Manila newsmen covering the Palace to a conference during which he apprised them of the government's financial situation. He left Malacañang, together with the newsmen, at 2 p.m.

President Macapagal, in a special press conference held before he left for Isabela at 2 o'clock this afternoon, issued the following statement:

With both the regular and special sessions over, it has become my inescapable duty to call attention to the difficult financial position that the National Government has been placed for the fiscal year 1964-65 as a result of the appropriations made by Congress without due regard for the sources of funds by which these expenditures must be financed. The total appropriations of Congress amount to P4,300 million for the General Fund alone as against a maximum estimated revenue of P1,914 million, or an excess of P2,381 million appropriations over income.

The total appropriations of P4,300 million are itemized as follows: (1) P2 246 million which was passed by Congress in its sessions; (2) P1,712 million which constitutes continuing appropriations; and (3) P342 million which constitutes fixed expenditures of the Treasury as well as retirement and life insurance premium requirements.

Ever since the beginning of this Administration, I have been calling the attention of Congress to the need for legislative measures to increase revenue collections through the improvement of Administrative machinery or by creating new sources of revenue. The Nacionalista-controlled Senate has blocked and failed to pass these measures. This situation will seriously affect essential services to the people.

In view of the serious situation, I have asked the Secretary of Finance, the Budget Commissioner, and the Director General of the PIA to study the matter.

**July 11.**—ALMOST all Isabela lined the highway which leads to Iligan, Isabela, to give President Macapagal a rousing welcome.

From the moment he crossed the Nueva Vizcaya-Isabela boundary at 9 a.m. to the time he reached Iligan at 7 p.m., four hours behind schedule, the President was kept busy getting in and out of his car to shake the hands of Isabelans who blocked the part of the presidential motorcade to get a glimpse of the Chief Executive.

Gov. Melanio T. Singson and mayors of Isabela towns, Liberals and Nacionalistas alike, led welcomers at the boundary and accompanied the President until he reached Iligan.

Said Gov. Singson at the boundary: "We welcome you, Mr. President, not as Liberals or as Nacionalistas, but because you are the hope of the common man.

The President was scheduled to leave Iligan early tomorrow and cross the Isabela-Cagayan boundary at 9:30 to start the third of his four-day tour of Cagayan Valley.

Numerous unscheduled stops featured today's leg of the Presidents trip. People formed roadblocks and would not let the presidential motorcade through until the President alighted and said a few words. The schedule was set back several hours.

The President had lunch at the San Mariano sugar central at 4 p.m. instead of the scheduled 12:30 p.m. because he had to make unscheduled stops at the towns of Condon, Santiago, Echague, Alicia, and Cauayan.

Upon arrival in Iligan, he inaugurated the Development Bank of the Philippines building.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **Official Week in Review: July 12 – July 18, 1964**

**July 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal started early this morning from Ilagan, Isabela for the third day of his four-day tour of the Cagayan Valley to fulfill speaking engagements and to open or inspect various government projects in the region.

The presidential motorcade was met at the Cagayan-Isabela boundary by Cagayan officials headed by Gov. Teresa J. Dupaya and Reps. Tito Dupaya and Benjamin Ligot.

Arriving a little after 10 am at Tuguegarao, the President proceeded to the cathedral where a *Te Deum* was sung in his honor. After the *Te Deum*, the president conferred with town and barrio officials at the residence of Tuguegarao Mayor Apolonio R. Reyes.

At about 11 a.m. the President left Tuguegarao for barrio Magapit, Lal-lo town, where he laid the cornerstone for the proposed Magapit bridge. From Magapit, the President's party hied to the Cagayan Valley Agricultural College in the outskirts of Lal-lo where lunch was served.

The President conferred with provincial, municipal and barrio officials after lunch.

After a little rest at the College the President's party left Lal-lo arriving at Buguey town shortly before five in the afternoon. The President officiated at the cornerstone laying rites for the Bonurbor Irrigation Project there. *Merienda* was served the Presidential party at the residence of Buguey Mayor Licerio Antiporda.

From Buguey, the President and his party motored to Aparri in northern Cagayan, arriving there about seven in the evening.

**July 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred with provincial, municipal and barrio officials, and laid the cornerstones of a bridge and several irrigation projects in Cagayan today. On the second day of his Cagayan tour, the President penetrated deep into the hinterlands of the potentially rich province and solicited the support of rural folk to his socio-economic program.

Leaving Aparri about 9 o'clock in the morning, the President motored to the barrio Banurbur, Buguey, where he laid the foundation of a P 650,000-irrigation system.

Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad, who accompanied the President, estimated that the system would service some 1,500 hectares, increase rice yield of the area by 15,000 cavans annually, and benefit about 300 families.

To reach the locality the President motored through seemingly interminable stretches of narrow, bumpy roads with planks of sawn logs serving as bridges over a number of brooks. The bridges were devoid of any sidings and middle sections and cars in the Presidential motorcade appeared to balance precariously as they traversed the makeshift bridges. From the barrio the President pushed on to Sta. Teresita town in response to the clamor of the people.

After addressing the rural folk at the local market place, the President proceeded to Lal-lo municipality where he had lunch and where he conferred with provincial, municipal and barrio officials at the Cagayan Valley Agricultural College.

At about 5 p.m. the President laid the cornerstone of a bridge in barrio Magapit in Lal-lo. The party returned to Aparri where the President boarded the Philippine Navy patrol ship, *RPS Pangasinan*, for Palanan, Isabela.

**July 14.**—PEOPLE of the Philippine coastal town of Sta. Ana at the northern tip of Cagayan, ignoring the gusty winds and driving rains of typhoon *Isang*, rushed out of their homes this afternoon to greet an unexpected visitor – President Macapagal.



Not previously informed of the President's coming to their town, Sta. Ana folk had the surprise of their lives when they suddenly found the Chief Executive in their midst. News that the President spread so fast that in no time at all, the town folk who had barricaded themselves in their homes because of typhoon *Isang*, were out on the street to shake the President's hand, touch his sleeves or just stare at him. To most of them, this was their first contact with a President of the Philippines.

The President's unscheduled visit to Sta. Ana was brought about by the typhoon which caused the captain of *RPS Pangasinan* to drop anchor off San Vicente, a barrio of Sta. Ana, and wait for typhoon *Isang* to spend itself. When Sta. Ana Mayor Ernesto Borja learned of this, he boarded the ship and invited the President to the town. The President went ashore and motored some four kilometers to the Poblacion under driving rain.

The Port of San Vicente where the Navy craft took refuge is one of 14 barrios of Sta. Ana, a town of 11,000 souls engaged in farming, logging, and fishing.

Mayor Borja recommended the conversion of San Vicente into an open port and the establishment of canning and cement factories to hasten the development of the potentially rich barrio of San Vicente. It was in this barrio where the late President Magsaysay established one of the pre-fab school building factories operated by 515th Engineer Forestry Company, which at its peak sent out two and one half units a day.

President Macapagal said he would order the re-opening of the pre-fab factory and its restoration to full production capacity.

From Sta. Ana, the President pushed on westward under inclement weather conditions, to the town of Gonzaga, same 25 kilometers away. He was expected to return to his ship in the evening.

**July 15.**—WAKING UP early this morning aboard his ship anchored off Port San Vicente, the President again went ashore and inspected the pre-fab school building factory closed years ago owing to lack of funds.

Operated by the 515th Forestry Engineer Company, the factory used to produce two and a half units of pre-fab building daily during the administration of the late President Magsaysay.

On his way to Palanan, Isabela, President Macapagal decided to visit wind-swept Camiguin Island to see for himself conditions obtaining there and to find out how the government could be of some assistance to its inhabitants. Camiguin is a sparsely populated island with an area of about 344 square miles. It is located some 33 nautical miles off Northern Luzon.

As in the coastal towns of Sta. Ana and Gonzaga in Cagayan which the President visited unannounced yesterday, the Camiguin inhabitants were taken by surprise by the President's arrival this afternoon. No President has ever set foot on this island and the people there seemed unable to believe they would ever see and shake hands with a head of a Republic in their lifetime.

Accompanied by former Gov. Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya; Capt. Felix Apolinario, Philippine Navy vice-commander; and Cmdr. Manuel Mandapat, presidential aide, the President landed on the island 5 p.m. today.

The Chief Executive explained to the inhabitants the policy of his administration to improve the living conditions of the people, particularly in the rural areas.

The President said he had already directed Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., to reactivate the factory and restore to its former production capacity. Such important projects as school buildings should have high priority in the government's construction programs, the President said.

From the factory the President visited the nearby Navy fuelling station. Then he proceeded to the residence of Sta. Ana Mayor Ernesto Borja, where he came upon a large group of municipal and barrio officials and a delegation of teachers waiting for him.

After a series of protracted conferences at the Mayor's residence during which the President took note of the varied problems of the locality, the President and his party returned to the *RPS Pangasinan*. The ship weighed anchored and steamed to Camiguin Island from where the Presidential party was sailing for Palanan, Isabela. The President was scheduled to arrive there tomorrow morning.

Defense Undersecretary Alberto de Joya took his oath of office today as the new Commissioner of Customs before Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar. De Joya replaces Commissioner Jose B. Lingad, who was appointed by President Macapagal as acting labor secretary.

The oath-taking ceremony which took place at the Cabinet room in Malacañang was witnessed by a large crowd from the departments of national defense and finance and other offices.

Out-going Customs Commissioner Lingad headed the group from the Bureau of Customs that attended the rites. He said he will take his oath as labor secretary after he has conferred with the President.

Others who witnessed the ceremony were Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., General Alfredo Santos, AFP chief of staff, Former Justice Marcelino Montemayor, PAGCOM Chairman Conrado N. Cajator, and Assistant Executive Secretary Juan Cancio.

**July 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today paid a visit to Palanan, Isabela, "to give recognition to his municipality as one of the nation's historical shrines."

In an interview on board the *RPS Pangasinan* following a three-hour stay in the town where the first Philippine Republic under General Emilio Aguinaldo made its last stand against the American forces in 1901, the President expressed the hope that his visit would focus attention to that locality and give it its rightful historic value.

The President pointed out that the Congress had already recognized the true concepts of history by approving a bill changing Independence Day July 4 to June 12.

"What will posterity remember of July 4th?" the President asked. "Speechless, politicians—these do not inspire," he added.

The President recalled that even the national flag and the national anthem were connected with the revolution. He also recalled he had long wanted to visit Palanan even when he was a congressman.

"I have always been an idealist and these are but manifestations of my ideals," the President said.

The Chief Executive disembarked from the ship of Palanan at 8 a.m. today after an overnight voyage from Camiguin Island. Getting into a Navy fiberglass patrol boat, the President rode down the crocodile-infested river for the town, an hour's ride away.

About midway down, rapids and very shallow waters prevented the launch from going on. The President and his party had to walk one kilometer along stony dry river bed under the heat of the sun, until six-by-six logging trucks came along and conveyed them the rest of the way to the town.

In the town, *Te Deum* was sung at the church whose size made it look more like a barrio chapel.

Then, the President proceeded to the nearby town marker where General Aguinaldo surrendered to American General Frederick Funston on March 23, 1901. The President placed the leis presented to him by his welcomers on the historic marker.

Isabela Gov. Melanio T. Singson informed the Chief Executive that he was the second President to visit Palanan. The first was President Aguinaldo. Also with the President at the marker were Palanan officials headed by Mayor Aladino Bernardo.

The members of the presidential party were treated to the sight of native Dumagat women wearing the new topless costumes who, along with their menfolk and children, came down from the mountains to welcome the President.

Mayor Bernardo informed the Chief Executive that it has been the dream of the people to see him since they heard of his desire to visit Palanan.

After conferring with local officials and distributing gift boxes to the town's indigents, the President and his party were taken by lumber trucks to a point past the rapids which is some 16 kilometers from the town, where they boarded launches for the ship anchored about a mile from the mouth of the river.

This ship bearing the presidential party lifted anchor at 1:30 this afternoon for Quezon where the Chief Executive intends to visit some more islands and board a train back to Manila.

**July 17.**—THE President surprised the people of Polilio, Quezon, when he landed briefly on the island at 8 a.m. today enroute to one of the ports of Quezon mainland where he will board a train for Manila.

With a population of 13,000 engaged in fishing, copra, and gathering of the island located some 16 nautical miles east of Infanta, Quezon.

The President was welcomed by townsfolk headed by local officials, including Nacionalista Mayor Santiago Azaula of the town. It was the second visit of the President to the island. The first was during the 1961 campaign.

President Macapagal is scheduled to return to Manila this evening from a week-long inspection tour of Cagayan Valley provinces.

**July 18.**—THE President issued today a proclamation declaring Thursday, July 23, a public holiday throughout the country. July 23 marks the centenary of the birth of Apolinario Mabini, "the Sublime Paralytic," who was born in barrio Talaga, Tanauan, Batangas.

In his proclamation the Chief Executive said: "It is fitting and proper that the people should be given ample opportunity to celebrate the centennial birthday of the 'Sublime Paralytic' with appropriate ceremonies in tribute to the legacy he has left to the present generation."

In another proclamation he signed before departing San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija, this morning, the President declared Tuesday, July 21, a special public holiday in the municipality of San Fabian, Pangasinan. The date marks the centenary of the birth of Juan Alvarado, statesman, educator, member of the First Philippine Assembly, and former Governor of Pangasinan.

In his proclamation, the President said, "the people of San Fabian, Pangasinan, Juan Alvarado's birthplace should be given an opportunity to celebrate the occasion with fitting ceremonies."

President Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker today at the 12th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM) held at its national headquarters in San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija.

In his speech the President called on all Filipinos to draw inspiration from the “crusading spirit” of the PRRM so that they could help him extend the frontiers of freedom to the masses of our people.”

The President together with the First Lady, arrived there shortly after noon today.

Shortly after his arrival at the PRRM headquarters, the President was briefed on the work and objectives of the movement at the PRRM guesthouse in barrio Nieves, San Leonardo, by PRRM President Gregorio Feliciano.

After luncheon at the guesthouse, the Chief Executive proceeded to the PRRM auditorium for the program.

Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda introduced the President. During the program the President, assisted by Feliciano, presented service and outstanding rural reconstruction worker’s awards to PRRM workers.

The President left the PRRM headquarters at 2:30 p.m. for Guiguinto, Bulacan, where he and the First Lady were honor guest at the inauguration unveiling the marker and Mrs. Macapagal cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

The unveiling and ribbon-cutting ceremonies were followed by a tour of the plant. Yao Shiong Shio briefed the First Couple on the processing of chemicals.

After a snack at the plant of the President motored back to Manila, arriving in Malacañang early in the evening.

Before motoring to Nueva Ecija this morning, the President heard a requiem mass said for the late Rodrigo Perez, Jr., land authority governor, at the San Beda Cathedral.

*Source:* **Supreme Court Library**

Macapagal, D. (1964). Official Month in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 60(29), ccxv-ccxix.

## **Official Week in Review: July 19 – July 25, 1964**

**July 19.**—THIS morning the President had breakfast with Mayor Antonio J. Villegas and threshed out points of misunderstanding which had almost driven the mayor out of the party.

“All’s well that ends well,” Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes said in commenting on the Macapagal-Villegas talks.

President Macapagal today visited the isolated barrios of Lambac and Anosa, situated in Talim Island in Laguna de Bay.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by Rep. Jovito Salonga, Land Authority Governor Benjamin Gozon, Secretary of Agriculture Jose Y. Feliciano, and Jose D. Calderon, general manager of the National Marketing Corporation, visited the two isolated barrios.

The President visited the barrios, and according to Rep. Salonga, became the first Chief Executive to have ever gone to those places.

The President left Malacañang at 10 o’clock this morning and arrived at barrio Lambac shortly after 12 o’clock. He had lunch in the barrio and later boarded a fiberglass speed boat for the other side of the island for Anosa.

In Anosa, which is a barrio of Binangonan, Rizal, the President addressed a fair-sized crowd which welcomed him.

**July 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred this morning with Cebu Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., on the celebration on the 400th anniversary of Christianity in the Philippines. The event, which is scheduled from April 28 to May 2 next year, will have Cebu City as the center.

Among the matters taken up were the proposed schedule activities and public improvements; such as, expansion of the water supply and widening of streets.

Later this morning the President received Reps. Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur, and Manuel Cases of La Union on matters affecting their respective districts. He also met briefly with President Rafael Recto of the Philippine National Bank and Chairman Brigido Valencia of the Mindanao Development Authority on matters concerning their respective offices.

At noon the President inducted the officers and members of the board of supervisors of the Philippine Tourist and Travel Association (PTTA). Sworn in by the Chief Executive at the Malacañang reception hall were Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, board chairman; BTTI Commissioner Teofilo Soza, president; Dante Calma, board executive secretary; and Cesar Jayme, A. G. Palileo, Salvador C. Peña, Buenaventura Veloso, Ladislao Tolentino, Jesus Pimentel, Sostenes Campillo, Geminiano Yabut, Ernesto Ilustre, and Anos Fonacier, members.

The President had lunch with the provincial and municipal officials of Pampanga. He discussed with them problems of his home-province.

Late in the afternoon the President and the First Lady motored the Caloocan City where they attended the turn-over ceremonies for the improved Bonifacio monument.

In the evening the Chief Executive had dinner with Defense Secretary and Mrs. Macario Peralta, Jr.; retired Generals Pedro Molina, Ernesto Mata, Jonas Victoria, and Nicanor Garcia; and Commodore Juan Magluyan and their ladies.

President Macapagal has declared Tuesday, July 21, a special holiday in the province of Cotabato, Lanao del Sur, Lanao del Norte, and Sulu; and in the cities of Basilan, Cotabato, Iligan, and Marawi in connection with the Muslim national feast of Mauleed-En-Nabi.

In signing Proclamation No. 271 the President stated that Muslim officials and employees of the government, both national and local, performing their duties and functions outside of the provinces and cities above stated, shall be exempted from duty on this feast day. July 21 shall be considered a special holiday for said officials and employees in their respective stations, the proclamation added.

**July 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met for the second time at breakfast today with Mayor Antonio J. Villegas on the controversial RA 4065. During their conference at Malacañang music room, Mayor Villegas submitted all the facts and information on the case to the President, who in turn referred the papers to Justice Marceliano Montemayor for speedy study and advice.

Also present at the meeting were former Justice Montemayor and Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio, both legal advisers to the President.

Following the breakfast conference, the President received 15 provincial governors, eight city mayors, and six congressmen who took up with him matters concerning their respective regions; such as budgetary aide, public works, and local appointments.

A delegation of the municipal mayors from the fifth congressional district of Cebu led by former Gov. Manuel Cuenco presented to the President a resolution endorsing his reelection.

In their resolution the mayors said the Chief Executive needed some more years to carry out satisfactorily his five-year socio-economic program. The Cebu mayors were Gregorio Cañete of Alcantara, Juanario Agravante, Jr., of Badian, Elias S. Gumera of Boljo-on, Nicolas F. Jomud of Ginatilan, Roque C. Vilbar of Malabuyoc, Geronimo B. Estimo of Moalboal, and Francisco Vasaya of Santender.

Rep. Jose Briones of Cebu informed the President of the alarming rise in prices of corn in the province and asked the Chief Executive to adopt measures to prevent hoarding of the cereal. Thereupon the President phoned Agriculture Secretary and RCA Chairman Jose Y. Feliciano to take necessary steps to bring down the price of corn, and to continue with his efforts to keep down the price of rice.

In the afternoon the President motored to Escolta where he was guest speaker at the 48th anniversary celebration of the Philippine National Bank.

Back at Malacañang two hours later, the President conferred with Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and Customs Commissioner Alberto de Joya. He also met with members of the board of directors of the Philippine Air Lines on the request for a third frequency flight of the Pan American and Northwest Airlines. Present at the conference were GSIS Manager Ramon Diaz, DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, Directors Roberto Lim and A. Barin, and General Victor Dizon.

The President was scheduled to entrain for Camarines Norte this evening to inspect progress for the work in the Manila South Road.

**July 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal said today that with the coordinated efforts of the President Liberal Party Administration, the country will witness the prosecution of a gigantic program of highway development which has no parallel in this country.

Speaking at the ground-breaking ceremony for a 70-kilometer highway connecting Camarines Norte to Quezon province the President said that the Philippine highway program will be implemented to the full limit of the nation's resources.

The proposed new road is a part of a 2,079 kilometer highway programmed for construction from Aparri in Northern Luzon to Mindanao with a system of connecting bridges and highways.

The Chief Executive arrived by train at Sipocot, Camarines Sur, at 12:30 p.m. today. He was met at the Sipocot station by a large crowd headed by Gov. Apolonio Maleniza of Camarines Sur and Wenceslao Vinzons, Jr., of Camarines Norte, and Rep. Marcial Pimentel, also of Camarines Norte.

From Sipocot, the President motored to Daet, Camarines Norte, some 56 kilometers away, where a *Te Deum* was said at the St. John the Baptist Church. Then he continued on to Talubatib, some 27 kilometers farther for the ground-breaking rites.

Following the ceremonies, the President motored back to Daet where he addressed a public rally. He also paid his last respects to the late Froilan Pimentel, former governor and assemblyman and father of the present congressman, who died yesterday. The body laid in state at the provincial capitol.

**July 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led the nation today in observing the 100th birthday anniversary of Apolinario Mabini by laying a wreath at the newly-installed monument of the “Sublime Paralytic” at the Otis rotunda this morning. The monument was unveiled earlier by the First Lady.

The President motored to the Mabini monument shortly after his arrival in Malacañang at past 9 a.m. from Camarines Norte where he launched the construction of a highway connecting the province and the Bicol region to the rest of Luzon.

The highway forms part of the Pan-Philippine Highways System that will link Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao through a system of highways, bridges and ferry service.

Later in the morning the President motored to the residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irenia Vda. de Macaraeg, in San Juan, Rizal, where he receive a provincial and municipal officials who consulted him on local matters.

A delegation from Bohol led by former Rep. Simeon Torribio called on the Chief Executive regarding their invitation to the President to inspect some socio-economic projects in their province.

In the course of his meeting with the local officials, the President administered the oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party to Vice Mayor Paulo Ramirez and Councilor Angel Cipilitar of Mabini, Davao.

Back at Malacañang at 1 p.m., the President met his Cabinet and discussed with its members the 1964-65 appropriations bill passed by Congress during the first special session.

Present at the meeting were Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Justice Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad, Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, Defense Secretary Macario Peralto, Jr., Health Secretary Rodolfo Caños, General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar, Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes, NEC Chairman Hilarion Henares Jr., Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, PIA Director-General Armand Fabella, Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez, and Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano.

After a brief siesta the President received Prof. Alfredo Veloso, who presented him with a set of books on Mabini.

The books were English translations by Veloso from documents in the National Library at the instance of the President as the latter’s cultural contribution to the centennial celebration of the “Sublime Paralytic.”

The two volumes were entitled *Memoirs on the Philippine Revolution* and *Testaments and Political Letters of Apolinario Mabini*.

Then, the President received SSS Administration Bernardino Abes and Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez.

Abes reported on the ILO conference held in Geneva from June 17 to July 9, while Ambassador Lopez discussed with the President the next move to resume the tripartite talks among the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia, first at the foreign ministers level, some time next month. The President instructed Lopez to proceed in arranging the resumption of talks to discuss the President's proposal for an Afro-Asian committee that will look into the dispute between Indonesia and Malaysia as embodied in the Tokyo communique.

The President also received Mayor Norberto Amoranto of Quezon City, who requested budgetary aid for the improvement of the Quezon Memorial Park. Amoranto also invited the President to be the guest of honor and speaker at the Silver Jubilee celebration of Quezon City on October 12. The President accepted the invitation.

Later the President administered the oath of office to Gabriel Daza as member of the board of directors of the National Power Corporation. Present at the induction ceremony held at the President's study were MDA Chairman Brigido Valencia, Martin Dizon, and George Gonzales.

**July 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal signed today the P2.1 billion general appropriations bill passed by Congress during the last special session. The President signed the bill shortly before sailing for Cebu late this morning, in the presence of Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio, and Acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes.

In approving the national budget for the fiscal year 1964-65, the President vetoed that portion increasing the allowance of legislators amounting to approximately P10.5 million. He also vetoed certain items in the budget.

Before signing the national budget, the President signed the P10-million Calamity Fund bill which was also enacted by Congress during the last special session.

Early this morning the President conferred with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal on the question of invalidation of signatures on the Republic Act 4065.

Then he planted a Golden Shower tree in front of the Palace in observance of Arbor Week. Present at the tree-planting ceremony were Administrator Carlos Cunanan, and personnel of the Reforestation Administration.

On his way up the Palace the President was met by a delegation of school supervisors led by Tomas Garcia, assistant chief of division of special services and subjects of the Bureau of Public Schools, who requested the approval of the item in the national budget for the implementation of salary adjustments for them. Garcia said some 200 school supervisors stand to benefit from the item providing P400,000 for the adjustments in their salaries.

The President then went to his private study where he signed the general appropriations and calamity fund bills, before motoring to the Philippine Navy headquarters on Roxasboulevard where he boarded *RPS 21* for Cebu.

RPS 21 is the tentative name given to the former *RPS Pagasa* used by the late President Magsaysay. It was reactivated for the use of President Macapagal after the capsizing of *RPS Soliman* during a recent typhoon while it was under repair in Mariveles, Bataan.

The President arrived at the navy headquarters landing at 11:45 a.m. and was seen of by the First Lady, daughter Gloria, and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr.

Aboard the ship the President spent the entire afternoon in conference with Commissioner Sy-Changco on portions of the national budget vetoed by the Chief Executive.

Starting soon as the President boarded RPS 21 shortly before 12 noon, the conference lasted through luncheon and until early in the evening when Commissioner Sy-Changco disembarked at Batangas, Batangas, and motored back to Manila.



At 8 o'clock this evening the presidential ship is negotiating Verde Island passage along comparatively smooth seas. Lt. Cmdr. Sergio Nepomuceno, ship skipper, said fine sailing condition are unusual during these southwest monsoons. Also aboard are Commodore Santiago Nuval, navy commander, Secretary Reyes, and Malacañang newsmen.

**July 25.**—THE President arrived in Cebu City this evening for a hectic day-long stump of the populous and vote-heavy southern province.

He arrived with Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes and Malacañang newsmen after a restful 32-hour sea voyage aboard the reconditioned presidential yacht *RPS Pagasa*. A large group of government officials, Liberal Party leaders, and civic elements headed by Gov. Rene Espina gave the President and his party a warm welcome.

From the wharf the President motored to the Archbishop's Palace where he was guest at dinner of Msgr. Julio Rosales, archbishop of Cebu. He was to stay overnight at the residence of Gov. Espina.

*Source:* **Supreme Court Library**

Macapagal, D. (1964). Official Month in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 60(30), ccxxiii-ccxxvii.

## President's Week in Review: July 26 - August 1, 1964

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**July 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was warmly received by the Cebuanos during his visit in central Cebu cities and municipalities today.

Waking up early this morning at the residence of Cebu Gov. Rene Espina in Cebu City where he spent the night, the President heard mass at 7 a.m. at the Guadalupe church nearby. He received Holy Communion.

Back at Gov. Espina's residence where he had breakfast, the President inducted the officers of the Department of Agricultural and Natural Resources Association, regional branch.

From there the President's party motored to Danao City some 33 kilometers away to inaugurate the P125,000-subport there.

Enroute to Danao the President's party made brief stops at Mandawe, Consolacion, Liloan, and Compostela where townspeople gave him warm welcomes.

The President was accompanied by Gov. Espina, Reps. Manuel Zosa, Tereso Dumon, and Ramon Durano.

Arriving at Danao City shortly past ten in the morning, the Chief Executive was welcomed by Mayor Beatriz Durano, who presented the President with a laminated resolution unanimously approved by the city board adopting him a son of the city "as a fitting expression of gratitude for his deep concern for the welfare of the common people."

The President then proceeded to the city church and heard *te deum* sung in his honor.

After lunch at the nearby Sands Recreation Center and Beach Resort, the President conferred with mayors and vice-mayors headed by their league president, Mayor Elpidio de Dios of Carmen, at the Danao residence of Rep. Durano. During the conference the local officials unanimously endorsed the President's reelection.

From Danao, the President's party returned to Cebu City and then pushed on to the towns of Minglanilla, Naga, San Fernando, Carcar, and finally Barili at the western coast of the province where he participated in the celebration of the town fiesta. About midnight, the President boarded *RPS 21* for the return voyage to Manila.

**July 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal threw the door wide open today for Liberal leaders to vie for nomination to the party's senatorial slate.

In a luncheon conference with the press aboard the Navy ship *RPS Pagasa* which is taking him back to Manila from Davao City, the President said he would not interfere in the selection of the L.P. candidates for the Senate in the coming elections, except for one berth.

He said he had committed himself to Senate Minority Leader Estanislao Fernandez. The rest of the ticket would be decided by the convention, he said.

The President also said he would leave the choice of his running mate to the convention. However, should this highest body of the party passes a resolution for him to make the choice, he would do so.

The President indicated coolness today toward a reported proposal of Speaker Cornelio Villareal for another special session of Congress.

The President told newsmen aboard the Navy ship that he would, upon arrival in Manila, consult with Villareal and other party leaders on the speaker's proposal, but reiterated that he had already given enough time to the Nacionalista-controlled Senate to act on measures he believed were badly-needed by the country.

The President cited the failure of Congress to pass the public works bill and his alternate proposal to appropriate P50 million for school-building projects.

The President indicated that unless given enough assurance that these important measures had a chance to pass, he would not call another extra session.

The President is returning to Manila from Cebu where he had conferred with local and national officials in Danao City and crowned a beauty queen in Barili town, Cebu.

The President administered today the oath of office to Mariano A. Zosa as judge of the Court of First Instance of Misamis Occidental and Ozamis City.

At a public rally held in Barili, Cebu, this afternoon, the President also pinned a medal on Barili Mayor Libbrada Pace, who had been chosen outstanding mayor in Cebu province by the Cebu press.

The President arrived at Barili town on the western coast of Cebu about 4 p.m. after traveling some 70 kilometers from Cebu City. He was accompanied by Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Gov. Rene Espina of Cebu, and Rep. Manuel Zosa, a native of Barili.

The President found the town at the height of its celebration of the feast day of its patron saint, Sta. Ana. The Chief Executive participated in the festivities.

Addressing the townspeople at a rally, the President hit back at those who criticized him for traveling to remote towns and barrios of the country. He said he was visiting these outlying localities in the belief that government officials could best assist the rural communities by finding out for themselves the actual conditions in these places.

"My critics seem to think that a President, once elected, should stay in Malacañang," the President said. "I believe, however, that a President should keep constant link with the people by going to the people instead of the people coming to their President."

The President and his party boarded *RPS Pagasa* about midnight, and are scheduled to arrive in Manila tomorrow morning.

**July 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned this morning from a five-day trip to Cebu where he visited Cebu City, Danao City, and Barili in what his critics claimed was part of a pre-convention campaign in connection with the presidential election next year.

The Chief Executive returned aboard the *RPS 21*, an unnamed Philippine Navy ship, which was used by former President Magsaysay as his presidential yacht *Sta. Maria*. The President was met by the First Lady and their daughter Gloria at the Philippine Navy headquarters landing.

Upon his arrival in Malacañang, the President went over the pile of pending state papers which accumulated while he was away.

President Macapagal led the nation this afternoon in paying tribute to the 24 scouts and scouters of the Philippines who perished in a plane crash last year while on their way to the 11th Boy Scouts World Jamboree in Marathon, Greece.

The President, in brief remarks before the kin of the deceased delegates and other guests, said that “our scouts died, but their memory will remain living in the minds and hearts of many.”

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President left Malacañang at 4: 20 p.m. for the Boy and Girl Scouts’ Memorial Triangle in front of San Juan de Letran College to participate in the memorial rites sponsored by the Letran-Parents-Scouters Association in honor of the “departed young ambassadors of goodwill.”

During the ceremonies Mrs. Macapagal unveiled the newly erected Scout-Heroes’ Monument on the triangle. She was assisted by the President and by the kin of the dead scouts and scouters.

Earlier in the afternoon the President met with newsmen covering Malacañang at a special press conference in his study.

The Chief Executive explained to the newsmen the absurdity of Sen. Antonino’s charge of “collusion” between the President and Speaker Cornelio Villareal in the President’s veto of at least P10.5 million allowances for congressmen. The President showed the newsmen the signatures of the Senate President and the Speaker of the House in the enrolled bill he signed.

After the press conference the President administered the oath of office to Manila Mayor Antonio Villegas as member of the NAWASA board of directors.

In the evening he received former US Press Secretary Pierre Salinger who paid a courtesy call.

President Macapagal has signed a proclamation declaring the period from July 26 to 31, this year, as Surveying and Mapping Week. In his proclamation the President stressed the importance of focusing attention on surveying and mapping in the scheme of national development and on the contribution of surveyors and engineers to national economy and progress.

The President designated the Board of Technical Surveys and Maps to take charge of the celebration of the week.

**July 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal called upon the business community Wednesday to “persuade Congress next session to enact the necessary legislation which would enable our monetary authorities to relax materially their policy of credit contraction, if not to discard that policy altogether.”

The Chief Executive sounded this appeal in a speech he delivered before the first national convention of Affiliated Chambers of Commerce of the Philippines held at the Manila Hotel at 10 a.m. today. He was the guest of honor and speaker.

CCP President Domingo Arcega who fetched the President from Malacañang introduced the Chief Executive to the convention delegates.

At noon today the President met at luncheon with 11 Cabinet members headed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez and with 41 congressmen led by Speaker Cornelio Villareal.

He explained to the legislators during the luncheon conference that when he vetoed the P10.5 million increase in House appropriations, what was uppermost in his mind was public welfare. “It was painful to me to have been pictured as having done it in the spirit of vindictiveness,” the Chief Executive said.

After the conference with congressmen the President met a delegation of some 5,000 embroidery workers from Southern and Central Luzon provinces.

The embroiderers were accompanied to Malacañang by Sen. Francisco Rodrigo, Bulacan Gov. Jose Villarama, Chamber of Home Industries President Jose Andrada, Embroidery Contractors Association of the Philippines

President Ramon Estacio, and acting President Jose Montañó of the Philippine Association of Embroidery and Apparel Exporters, Inc. The group asked the President to veto Senate bill No. 530.

After addressing the embroiderers group at the Executive Budding grounds the President met with some 300 delegates of the Federation of Air Transport Unions of the Philippines behind the Executive Building.

The group was headed by their president, Cesar Legayada, and Emilio Saño, Philippine Air Lines Employees Association (PALEA), president and vice-president of the federation.

Legayada, who acted as spokesman, asked the Chief Executive to have the fifth freedom right granted to PAL. The fifth freedom is the right of an airline company of one sovereign country to pick up and discharge passengers and cargo a third country on the airline's way to and from the country with which it enjoys flight frequency. In this case, the object of the federation's petition was Tokyo, which is on PAL's way to and from the USA.

The President explained to the airline delegates that any decision on the matter will involve other countries, and not just the Philippine Government. He assured them, however, that he would act accordingly, irrespective of consequences.

Following his meeting with the airlines' delegation, the President administered the oath of office to former Customs Commissioner Jose B. Lingad as new secretary of labor.

After swearing in Lingad, the President met with newsmen in his study at his regular weekly press conference. He presided over a meeting of his Cabinet in the evening.

**July 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker today at the luncheon meeting of the Mandaluyong Chamber of Commerce and Industries (MCCI) held at the Wack Wack Golf Club in Mandaluyong, Rizal.

In his speech the President stressed the need for clarification by Congress of certain provisions of Republic Act No. 1180, otherwise known as the Retail Trade Act, which have become the subject of ambiguous and conflicting administrative interpretations, with resultant confusion in the business community.

The President was fetched by MCCI President Eugenio J. Puyat from the San Juan residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg, where he received provincial and municipal officials this morning who consulted him on matters concerning their respective regions. Among the delegations that called on the Chief Executive was one headed by Gov. Norberto Romualdez of Leyte del Sur, who witnessed the affiliation with the Liberal Party of four Nacionalista and one Independent municipal officials of the province.

Those who took their oath as new Liberals before the President were Mayor Santiago Ramandaban and Councilor Delfin Besa of Tabontabon, Mayor Faustino Serrano and Councilor Leonardo Bautista of Dulag, and Mayor Jose Dycoco of Mahaplag.

Before motoring to San Juan with the First Lady, the President laid a wreath at the tomb of the late Honorio Ventura, former governor of Pampanga and secretary of interior, in observance of the Pampango philanthropist's 77th birth anniversary.

The President was back at Malacanang shortly before 2 p.m. from the Wack Wack Golf Club. After taking a brief siesta, the Chief Executive worked on state papers at his private study till evening.

**July 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent almost the whole day today attending to his "Common Man's Day" callers numbering 4,007. He received his callers at his study and at the Malacañang Heroes Hall from 8:15 a.m. to 4 p.m., excusing himself only once for a hurried lunch.

He was assisted by the First Lady, the regular “Common Man’s Day” staff headed by Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar and Mrs. Salvador Mariño.

The President rested for some time following his strenuous meeting with the general public. He then worked on urgent official papers in his private study.

In the evening the Chief Executive, together with the First Lady, motored to the Philamlife building on United Nations Avenue where he was guest speaker at the closing ceremonies of the First National Town Planning Convention.

**August 1.**—THIS morning the President met a delegation of about 10,000 textile industry workers who asked him to approve Senate Bill No. 530. Last Wednesday another big group of embroidery workers from Manila and nearby provinces petitioned the President to veto the same bill.

The textile workers were led by Eulogio Lerum social security commissioner (representing labor): Delfin Buencamino, president of the Textile Mills Association; and Antonio V. Policarpio, vice-president and national secretary of the National Labor Union.

The delegation also requested the Chief Executive to veto Heading No. 63.03 of the Omnibus Tariff Bill, which reduces tariff on remnants, and to restrict the importation of used clothing.

The President informed the workers that up to now he has not received SB 530. He told the delegation that he was glad to see the two factions in the controversy are trying to settle their dispute by means of peaceful assembly, a democratic process.

Speaking in extemporaneous Pilipino before the delegation, the President assured them that “with the aid of God’s unfailing light, and with our faith for the best for the welfare of the greatest number of our people,” he would be guided in acting on it “by the foremost consideration of what is good for the great majority, especially the poor.

President Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker at luncheon today at the closing session of the first national convention of the Liberal Party League of Board Members at the GSIS auditorium.

The President spent the rest of the day working on pending state papers.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: August 2-8, 1964

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**August 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal expressed the hope today that Congress would eventually restore to the government the authority to import rice until such time that our country shall have been self-sufficient with the cereal.

He voiced the hope during a 30-minute question and answer interview in "Coffee with Valencia" a Sunday radio-television program on Channel 5 conducted by Teodoro F. Valencia, *Manila Times* columnist.

The special interview took place at the state dining hall of Malacañang where Valencia had extended the facilities of his weekly program for the purpose of having the President as guest.

During the interview the President discussed leading issues of the day which have an important bearing on the life of the nation.

The President worked on pending state papers the rest of the day.

At 7:00 p.m. the President heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. He was accompanied during the mass by the First Lady, their children Gloria and Diosdado, Jr., and Cmdr. Manuel Manlapat, presidential naval aide.

**August 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was honored this afternoon with a plaque of appreciation by the officials and employees of the Department of Foreign Affairs during special ceremonies at the DFA offices where the President and the First Lady were guests.

The plaque was unveiled at the lobby of the DFA building on Padre Faura in the presence of DFA personnel and their guests, while a certificate of appreciation was presented to the President.

Both the plaque and the certificate expressed the gratitude of officials and employees of the foreign office to the Chief Executive for the enactment of RA 4112, an amendment to the Foreign Service Act. The new law gives higher salaries and other benefits to foreign office personnel.

Shortly before noon today the President received a special three-member committee each from the Senate and the House of Representatives.

The committees formally informed the President that Congress was already convened for the third special session this year. First to arrive was the Senate committee composed of Sens. Lorenzo Sumulong, Alejandro Almendras, and Francisco Rodrigo.

After the senators had left the President administered the oath of office to Jose Mapa Gomez, as chairman of the Sugar Development Committee.

Shortly thereafter the President received the special House committee composed of Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun and Reps. Ramon Bagatsing and Gaudencio Abordo.

President Macapagal today approved the promotion of 325 regular and reserve officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines upon the recommendation of the Secretary of National Defense.

Of these promoted, 124 were to the rank of captain, 161 to first lieutenant, two to lieutenant senior grade (Navy), and 38 to lieutenant junior grade (Navy).

Of those elevated to captain, 78 are from the regular force and 46 from the reserve; to first lieutenant, 59 from the regular force and 102 from the reserve; to lieutenant senior grade 2, are from the reserve force; and to lieutenant, junior grade, 17 are from the regular and 21 from the reserve force.

**August 4.**—FROM 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the President received provincial and city executives and other officials, some of them bringing along delegations from their respective localities.

In the course of his receiving provincial delegations, the President also administered the oath of office to Fernando S. Vinzons, a businessman, as acting member of the Board of Trustees of the Government Service Insurance System, to fill a vacancy existing in the Board.

The oathtaking ceremony was witnessed by close relatives and friends of the inductee, among whom were Camarines Norte Gov. Wenceslao Vinzons, Jr., Rep. and Mrs. Marcial Pimentel of Camarines Norte, former Gov. and Mrs. Esmeraldo Eco, Mrs. Vinzons, the inductee's wife, and their daughter Marcia.

Among the morning callers of the Chief Executive were Quezon Board Members Mrs. Paz O. Marquez and Board Member Maximiano Medalla of Batangas. Mrs. Marquez and Mrs. Medalla, president and secretary-general, respectively, of the Liberal Party League of Provincial Board Members, delivered to the President a resolution adopted by the league at a meeting last August 1, endorsing the re-election of President Macapagal.

In the resolution the League stated that President Macapagal's program of government "may best be obtained under the aegis of the incumbent Chief Executive." It also said the League was "one in the belief that the President's five-year socio-economic program "is salutary and intended for the best interest of the people, and that four years is too short a period for a good and able President."

Others who saw the President were Govs. Jose Aquino of Agusan, Benigno Aquino, Jr., of Tarlac, Carmelo Barbero of Abra, Manuel D. Barretto of Zambales, Mrs. Carmeling Crisologo of Ilocos Sur, Pedro Dizon of Bataan, Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, Feliciano San Luis of Laguna, Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Constantino Navarro, Surigao del Norte, Telesforo Paredes of Palawan, Rafael Palmares of Iloilo, Manuel Pecson of Masbate, Eulogio de Guzman of La Union, Rodolfo Ignacio of Oriental Mindoro, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, Adela Serra Ty of Surigao del Sur, and Celso Preclaro of Marinduque: and city Mayors Mario Tagarao of Lucena and Liberate Reyna of Dagupan.

President Macapagal signed this afternoon the bill changing the date of Philippine Independence Day from July 4 to June 12 at simple rites in the Heroes' Hall of Malacañang. The bill, which became Republic Act No. 4166, also declared July 4 as Philippine Republic Day.

Another bill signed by the President at a testimonial banquet tendered in his honor by the Cultural Associations at the Manila Motel this evening, became RA 4165. This created the National Commission on Culture.

**August 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal inquired today into the elaborate preparations to receive President Philibert Tsiranana of the Republic of Malagasy when he arrives tomorrow on a three-day state visit to the Philippines. The President this morning summoned Eudaction Secretary Alejandro Roces, chairman of the National Committee on State Visits, to brief him on the details of the preparation.

Earlier the President directed Roces to do all in giving a cordial and rousing welcome to the Malagasy chief to reciprocate the enthusiastic reception accorded the Chief Executive and the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, when they visited Malagasy in December last year.

After conferring with Roces, the President received at his study some 34 congressmen who requested release of public works funds and sought approval of some local appointments.



In the course of receiving the lawmakers, the President signed House Bill No. 197, which became Republic Act No. 4167. The new law amended certain sections of RA 1828 which authorized the development, exploitation, and utilization of the mineral deposits in the Surigao reservations as amended in RA 2027. Surigao Rep. Reynaldo Honrado authored the bill.

The signing of the bill was witnessed by Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun; Reps. Honrado, Salih Ututalum, Luis Hora, and Vicente de Lara; and Govs. Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte and Jose Aquino of Agusan.

In the afternoon the President received the new American ambassador to the Philippines. William Blair, who presented his credentials in ceremonies at the Malacahang ceremonial hall.

After receiving Ambassador Blair the President presided over the regular weekly meeting of the Cabinet.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, was guest of honor at the induction of officers of the Finance Press Club at the Manila Hotel.

**August 6.**—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Macapagal received today President and Mrs. Philibert Tsiranana of the Malagasy Republic, the first African First Couple to visit the country.

President and Mrs. Macapagal had wanted to give the visiting African First Couple the best reception, but found out to their dismay that at least two “incidents” had fouled up what would have been a colorful and rousing reception for the visiting African dignitaries.

First, a Malacañang Press Office announcement the other night said that the Tsirananas would arrive at 8:55 a.m., but the African President landed at exactly 8 o’clock in the morning.

Many of those who wanted to meet the visiting Malagasy guests failed to see them, as President Tsiranana with President Macapagal were already leading a motorcade to Malacañang from the Manila International Airport when foreign diplomats started coming in.

No explanation was available for the “misleading announcement” on President Tsiranana’s arrival.

Another incident which marred the first-day stay of the Tsiranana occurred when Mrs. Macapagal accompanied the Malagasy’s First Lady to the *Hospicio de San Jose*, and no press office photographer covered Mrs. Tsiranana’s tour.

In the evening the President and the First Lady tendered a state dinner in honor of the distinguished visiting African dignitaries.

**August 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal and the First Lady escorted Malagasy President and Mrs. Philibert Tsiranana to Tagaytay City this morning. The state visitors were originally scheduled to enplane for Baguio City this morning but inclement weather brought about by typhoon *Senyang* forced cancellation of the trip.

A string band on the Bureau of Travel and Tourist Industry played native music for the visitors at the Tagaytay Vista Lodge.

The two Chiefs of State and their ladies, together with the members of the Malagasy entourage, left Malacañang at 9:25 a.m. Also on the trip were Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, chairman of the National Committee on State Visit and Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez.

Enroute to the Taal Vista Lodge, the presidential motorcade made a swing through Forbes Park to give the state visitors a glimpse of the country’s most exclusive residential district.

The presidential motorcade left the lodge after partaking of coffee and sandwiches. They were back at the Palace shortly after 1 p.m.

The President did not receive callers in the afternoon. He closeted himself in his private study where he worked on official papers.

In the evening the President attended the *Fiesta Filipina* tendered by the First Lady in Malacañang in honor of President and Madame Tsiranana.

**August 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal and Malagasy President Philibert Tsiranana issued a joint statement today in which they made known their desire for closer political, economic, and cultural relations between Madagascar and the Philippines.

The President and the First Lady, together with their children Arturo, Diosdado, Jr., and Gloria, had a private luncheon with President and Madame Tsiranana shortly after noon at the Palace state dining room.

Just before the luncheon, the President and the First Lady had an exchange of gifts with the state visitors. As their parting gifts to the Malagasy couple, President and Mrs. Macapagal gave, among others, a Bayanihan oil painting, *Piña* luncheon set, Capiz shell-topped coffee table, cigarette lighters, an album of souvenir photographs, and autographed pictures of themselves.

In return President Tsiranana presented the Chief Executive with some fashionable Malagasy hats, while Mrs. Tsiranana gave Mrs. Macapagal a golden bracelet in which was engraved the names of the places the First Couple visited during their state visit to Malagasy last December.

At 3:45 p.m. the President and the First Lady accompanied President and Mrs. Tsiranana to the Manila International Airport where the state visitors boarded an Air France jetliner for home.

Back at the Palace late in the afternoon, the President signed into law three bills passed by Congress during the last special session: namely, the Comelec, the Luneta Development, and the Ford Foundation bills.

President Macapagal issued a proclamation declaring August 19, this year, as a special public holiday throughout the Philippines.

In his directive the Chief Executive urged the observance of the day with appropriate ceremonies designed “to inculcate upon our people, especially the youth, the rights and duties of good citizenship.”

He pointed out that August 19 of every year is also Citizenship Day by virtue of a proclamation issued by the late President Quirino on August 4, 1952.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: August 9-15, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**August 9.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal this day stayed in his study room where he went over pending state papers, including his veto messages on the controversial embroidery bill and on the omnibus tariff measure which were approved by Congress in its second special session.

He had stayed late last night waiting for the enrolled copy of the tariff bill which he finally received at about 11 p.m. The bill was submitted to Malacañang at 10:26 p.m., roughly 94 minutes before the deadline for his action on the measure.

He consulted with his technical staff, headed by Armand Fabella, on the numerous items in the tariff bill.

This morning, after a late night, the President went over his veto messages. He was convinced that the veto was the proper action to take if only to stop the practice of submitting Congress-approved measures a few minutes before his deadline for his decision on the bills.

It has provided him with fresh ammunitions to hit back at Congress in his coming campaign speeches. He has already admitted he is a candidate for reelection and has been assured by even Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal that he would be the LP presidential standard bearer in the coming elections.

At 7 o'clock this evening the President heard mass at the Palace chapel. He was accompanied during the mass by the First Lady, and their children, Gloria and Diosdado, Jr., and Capt. Isabelo Floresca, newly-promoted presidential aide.

**August 10.**—THIS morning the President had a breakfast conference with Liberal Senators and House leaders on legislation still pending in Congress, especially the P1 billion 20-year school building bill now awaiting action in the Senate.

Present at the two-hour conference which started at 8:35 a.m. at the Malacañang state dining room were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal; Sens. Eustasio Fernandez, Gerardo Roxas, Ambrosio Padilla, Juan R. Liwag, Francisco Rodrigo, Tecla San Andres Ziga; Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun, Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, and Rep. Lucas Paredes of Abra, chairman of the House Committee on Public Works. Also present were Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad and Acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes.

Following his meeting with the Liberal congressional leaders, the President received Chairman Brigido Valencia of the Mindanao Development Authority (MDA) and UP President Carlos P. Romulo.

Valencia submitted to the Chief Executive a one-year interim program of action for Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan for the fiscal year 1964-1965. With Valencia in calling on the President were MDA Directors Jorge Royeca and Sofronio Española.

Romulo reported on his recent trip to the United States to negotiate a \$6 million loan for the State University with the World Bank. The UP President said he is enplaning soon for the US to sign the agreement on the loan. Romulo also discussed with the President the budget of the university. He requested a portion of the Calamity Fund on the repair of some UP buildings which were damaged by the June 29 typhoon.

Other morning callers were Col. Edwin Ramsey, a guerrilla leader in the Philippines during World War II, and Pedro De Jesus, presidential assistant on housing.

Ramsey, who arrived in the Philippines a month ago to visit friends and the places where he used to operate during the Japanese occupation, called on the Chief Executive to say goodbye prior to returning to the US this afternoon.

President Macapagal today presided over a meeting of the National Security Council to assess the Southeast Asia situation as it affects the Philippines. The top-level meeting was held this afternoon at the war room of the Department of National Defense in Fort Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

**August 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received today 24 provincial governors, city mayors, and other local officials. Some of the officials headed delegations. The Chief Executive met with the local officials from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Most of them asked for aid to repair typhoon damages.

Gov. Manuel D. Barreto of Zambales cleared with the Chief Executive the proposed revival of the Phil-American fiesta which had not been held for two years. He also sought approval by the President of his plan to send ten of his mayors to Taipei next week to observe rice growing there.

Gov. Teresa Dupaya of Cagayan and Vice-Governor Belen F. Calderon of Nueva Vizcaya asked for aid to rehabilitate their respective provinces from the destruction wrought by typhoon *Senyang*.

Surigao del Sur Gov. Adela Serra Ty brought to the President Mayor Jovito Orillaneda of Lanuza town, who took his oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party before the Chief Executive. Orillaneda ran as an independent Nacionalista in 1963 and defeated the official candidates of both the LP and the NP. Two others, Hadji Aldam of Basilan City and Burong Nurami of Camp Muslim, Zamboanga City, both NP leaders, also affiliated with the LP and took their oaths before the President. They were accompanied by former Rep. Amir Mindalano.

Board Members Mrs. Paz O. Marquez of Quezon, Maximiano Medalla of Batangas, and Vicente Bonot of Camarines Sur, president, secretary-general, and vice-president, respectively, of the Liberal Party League of Board Members, asked the President for a regular day on which they could see him. The President directed his appointments secretary, Capt. Tomas Nanquil, to assign one day every month for the board members to see him.

Earlier this morning the President received US Ambassador William Blair, who accompanied General Hunter Harris, the new commander of the US Air Force in the Pacific, on a courtesy call. With them was Maj. Gen. Sam Maddux, commanding officer of the 13th Air Force.

During the call Blair presented the Chief Executive with the “5-cent John F. Kennedy Memorial Album of Postage Stamps.” It was the first official audience of Blair with the President since he presented his credentials on August 5.

Among the other callers of the President this morning were Govs. Benigno Aquino of Tarlac, Carmelo Barbero of Abra, Pedro Dizon of Bataan, Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Sur, Rene Espina of Cebu, Telesforo Paredes of Palawan, Jose P. Neri of Camiguin sub-province, Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Sur, Jose Villarama of Bulacan, and Arsenio Villarosa of Mindoro Occidental: and City Mayors Liberato Ll. Reyna of Dagupan, Mario L. Tagarao of Lucena, and Zacarias Ticzon of San Pablo.

At 5 p.m. the President, together with the First Lady, was guest at the inauguration of the National Cottage Industries Development Authority exhibits at the NACIDA central office to Port Area. Mrs. Macapagal cut the ceremonial ribbon to open formally the exhibits to the public.

From the NACIDA the President motored to the V-Luna General Hospital in Quezon City where he visited Ex-Rep. Ricardo Navarro, who is confined at the hospital.

**August 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today conferred with members of Congress who called at Malacañang to consult him on various local problems. Among the matters taken up were local appointments and public works fund releases.

Northern Luzon solons, such as Reps. Manuel T. Cases of La Union, Floro Crisologo and Pablo Sanidad of Ilocos Sur, Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, Benjamin T. Ligot of Cagayan, and Lucas Paredes of Abra reported on the

extensive damage wrought by typhoon *Senyang* on their respective districts and sought the early release of public works funds for reconstruction purposes.

Rep. Cases informed the Chief Executive that La Union is still isolated because of impassable roads and that the P5 million irrigation project in his province which the President inaugurated two years ago was badly damaged. Other public works projects for which funds were sought by the congressmen include roads, bridges, wharves, and school buildings.

In the course of his meetings with the congressmen, the President was presented with resolutions endorsing his re-election by the leagues of Mayors and Vice-Mayors of Sulu and Zamboanga del Sur.

In their respective resolutions the municipal officials of Sulu and Zamboanga del Sur expressed their confidence in the President's leadership and pledged their "joint and solid support" for him. The Sulu delegation was headed by Gov. Hadji Arsad Sali, who presented the resolution to the Chief Executive. The group was accompanied to Malacañang by Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun.

The resolution of the Zamboanga mayors was presented to the President by Malangas Mayor Amador D. Cañete in the presence of House Assistant Majority Floor Leader Vincenzo Sagun and a group of Zamboanga mayors and political leaders. The President met with the congressmen from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In the afternoon the President met separately with the board of directors of the Philippine Chamber of Wood Industries and the officers of the Philippine Chamber of Industries.

The wood industries group presented to the Chief Executive a resolution expressing the industry's thanks for the lifting of the suspension in the renewal of licenses for forest concessions. The group was headed by Lorenzo Sarmiento, PCWI president.

The PCWI officials, headed by their president, Antonio Delgado, was accompanied to Malacañang by Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova. Other members of the wood industries board who saw the President were Florencio Tamesis, Rosauro Dongallo, Lupcinio V. Campos, Teodoro Araneta, Teodoro Juliano, Gaudencio Manalac, Claro M. Yancha, and Nora Zeta, board secretary.

Later in the afternoon the President presided over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

The President today abolished the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE) "in view of the failure of Congress to provide funds for its operation in the current budget."

In an Executive Order, the President directed that the records, property, equipment, unexpended balance of appropriations, and pending work of the abolished agency be transferred to the Office of the President.

**August 13.**—THIS morning the President received Fernando Jacinto of the Jacinto Steel, Inc., who reported on his recent trip to Washington, D. C, to confer with officials of the Export-Import Bank on the establishment of an integrated steel mill in Iligan City. With Jacinto in calling on the Chief Executive were Nicanor Jacinto and Col. C. P. de Leon of the steel company.

Earlier this morning the President met at breakfast with Presidential Assistant on Housing Pedro de Jesus on matters concerning the latter's office.

The President also received Msgr. Manuel del Rosario who paid him a social call.

Following his meeting with Jacinto, the President together with the First Lady motored to the San Juan residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg, where he received provincial and municipal delegations which saw him on various local matters, including party affairs.

A delegation of municipal officials and ward leaders of Narvacan, Ilocos Sur, accompanied by Rep. Pablo Sanidad, presented the President with resolution urging him to run for re-election as well as thanking the Chief Executive for the approval of a bill which is now Republic Act No. 4155 concerning the tobacco industry and the establishment of a School of Fishery in Sulvac, Narvacan.

In urging the President to run for re-election, the Narvacan officials said it was during the present administration that the municipality received government attention to its most urgent needs. They also said that in the convention of the National Directorate of the Liberal Party, Rep. Sanidad voiced the unanimous sentiment of the people of Narvacan and the Second District of Ilocos Sur by nominating President Diosdado Macapagal for reelection as Chief Executive of the nation.

In expressing gratitude to the President, the Narvacan officials said the approval of R.A. 4155 "will redound to the general welfare of our constituents, especially the small tobacco farmers and the have-nots."

On the establishment of the School of Fisheries, the Narvacan officials said this will enhance the much-needed vocational education of the student populace of the province.

Resolutions also endorsing the re-election of the President were presented to the Chief Executive by a delegation of municipal officials and barrio captains of Ubay, Bohol. Headed by Mayor Sabiniano D. Cuyno, the Ubay municipal and barrio officials said they "endorse and support the re-election bid of President Macapagal in 1965" because they realize that the President's "program of government is to penetrate the grass roots."

Another group that called on the President was headed by Mayor Roy Padilla of Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte, which submitted proposals for the construction of a P30,000 filtration and chlorination system in their town. They also sought budgetary aid for their municipality.

The President left San Juan at 12:30 p.m. for his luncheon meeting with the Foreign Affairs Consultative Body in Malacañang shortly thereafter.

President Macapagal met at luncheon this noon with the Foreign Affairs Consultative Body on the latest developments on Malaysia and on the Philippine claim to North Borneo.

Present at the luncheon held at the Malacañang State dining room from 12:24 p.m. to 3 p.m. were Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez; Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong and Rep. Godofredo Ramos, chairman of the Senate and the House foreign relations committees, respectively; Sens. Estanislao Fernandez, Ambrosio Padilla, Francisco Rodrigo, Tecla San Andres Ziga, and Gerardo Roxas; Reps. Jovito Salonga of Rizal, Ramon D. Bagatsing of Manila, Delfin B. Albano of Isabela; Jose L. Briones and Miguel Cuenco of Cebu; Angel Fernandez of Pangasinan, Dominador Tan of Leyte del Norte, Inocencio Ferrer of Negros Occidental and Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental; Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Librado D. Cayco, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes, and Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez and Tomas Benitez.

Later in the afternoon the President had a press conference.

**August 14.**—THIS morning the President received Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, who paid a farewell call prior to his leaving for the United States tomorrow as head of two separate delegations to confer with American officials on vital matter affecting Philippine economy.

The President also directed Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad, Director-General Armand Fabella of the Program Implementation Agency (PIA), and Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to set aside funds for the reconstruction of the Guadalupe Bridge. The bridge, at present a bottleneck on highway traffic, will be widened into four lanes. Construction will start immediately to ease traffic on the Manila North and South roads.

Later this morning the Chief Executive received the 28-man Philippine medical and civic action team which paid a farewell call on the eve of their departure for South Vietnam. The team was accompanied to Malacañang by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Alfredo Santos, and Col. Fidel Llamas, vice-commander of the Philippine Army.

President Macapagal boarded the Philippine Navy boat, *RPS 21*, shortly before noon today on his way to Negros Occidental where he was scheduled to lay the cornerstone of the Agro-Industrial Development Sugar Central in Saravia town. He was seen off at the pier by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria.

Shortly before leaving for Negros Occidental, the President designated PIA Director-General Fabella as acting Secretary of Finance in the absence of Sec. Hechanova. The President also directed welfare agencies to rush calamity aid and medical supplies to victims of fire in Tabaco, Albay.

**August 15.**—THE President arrived in Bacolod City this afternoon on board the *RPS 21*. He was met at Banago wharf by a big crowd headed by Negros Occidental Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, Vice-Gov. Benjamin Gomez, and former Sen. Ramon Torres. From the pier the President proceeded to the cathedral where *te deum* was sung in his honor early in the evening.

Later the President met with political leaders at the residence of Jose Mapa Gomez before addressing the dinner conference at the gym.

While enroute to Bacolod City the President was informed early this afternoon by Commodore Santiago Nuval, Philippine Navy flag officer, that the *RPS La Union* skippered by Lt. Rogelio Kangleon confiscated 291 cases and 18 cartoons of “blue seal” cigarettes from *M/L Sangbay Bay*, which was beached and abandoned at an island near Talibon, Bohol, after two hours of pursuit.

The President spent most of the time today in his cabin going over proposed appointments to key positions in the government. With him were Justice Secretary Salvador L. Marino, Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., PIA Director-General and concurrently Acting Finance Secretary Armand Fabella, Acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes, and Acting Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio.

At noon the President had lunch with the Cabinet officials and with Manila newsmen accompanying him at the deck of *RPS 21*. Early this afternoon he went out of his cabin again for brief meeting with the newsmen.

Shortly thereafter he heard mass said before an improvised altar on the ship’s deck in observance of the feast of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin.

President Macapagal today reassured those engaged in the sugar industry that he would do everything to ensure their wellbeing. The Chief Executive addressed this evening a dinner conference of sugar producers held at the La Salle gymnasium in Bacolod City.

The President was scheduled to officiate tomorrow at the cornerstone laying of the Agro-Industrial Development Company of the Silay-Saravia, Inc., in barrio Kabangkalan in Silay City.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: August 16-22, 1964

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**August 16.**—THE President arrived in Silay City late this morning from Bacolod City, where he had breakfast with provincial and municipal officials at the auditorium of the Sugar Cooperative Marketing, Inc. Earlier in Bacolod the President heard mass at the city cathedral.

After meeting with provincial and municipal officials, the President proceeded to the residence of former Vice-Gov. Gloria Esteban, where he administered the oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party to former Board Member Narciso Jocson.

Then he motored to Banago wharf and inspected some 290 cases of "blue seal" Union cigarettes confiscated last Friday noon by crew members of the *RPS La Union* headed by Lt. Rogelio Kangleon. The President congratulated Kangleon for his "good work" and told him to keep it up.

From the wharf the President motored to Silay City for the cornerstone laying ceremony of the Sugar Mill of the Agro-Industrial Development Company.

President Macapagal was main sponsor and speaker today at the cornerstone laying of the sugar mill of the Agro-Industrial Development Company of the Silay-Saravia, Inc., in barrio Kabangkalan, Silay City.

The central, which is capitalized at P10 million, is a joint project of some 800 sugar farmers in line with the present program of promoting and diversifying the sugar industry. The first mill, the cornerstone of which President Macapagal also laid early this year and which is nearing completion, is owned by the First Farmers Milling Company.

In a speech at a luncheon held in Silay City's cultural and civic center, the President urged the sugar producers to continue using portions of their profits for the establishment of related industries in sugar.

From Silay City the President proceeded to Sagay where he addressed a rally and administered the oath of office to the officers of the Allied Workers Association.

Following the dinner in the residence of Mayor Jose Puey, the President proceeded to Manapla, where he attended the coronation of that town's fiesta queen.

Late in the evening the President motored back to Bacolod City where he boarded the *RPS 21* for the return trip to Manila.

**August 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal resumes today his study of proposed appointments to key positions in the judiciary and the Armed Forces. He is enroute to Manila from a two-day visit to Negros Occidental where he was sponsor and guest speaker at the cornerstone laying of the Agro-Industrial Development Company sugar central in Kabangkalan, Silay City.

The choppy waters of the Sibuyan sea failed to keep the President from working on official papers in his cabin where he stayed almost the whole day. He started his paper work late this morning after a restful early morning sleep.

He boarded the Navy ship at the Banago wharf 1:30 this morning after addressing a big and enthusiastic crowd in Fabrica and after attending the coronation of the fiesta queen in Manapla town. With the President on the return voyage to Manila are Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., Acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes, Capt. Felix Apolinario, Philippine Navy vice-commander, and Manila newsmen.



The early morning voyage was a smooth one until about 10 o'clock this morning when the ship, skippered by Lt. Commander Sergio Nepomuceno, started negotiating the Sibuyan Sea. Its big swells continuously beat on the ship, throwing splashes over the lower deck. At eight this evening the ship was off Calapan, Oriental Mindoro, on the way to Verde Island Passage.

The President is scheduled to arrive in Manila tomorrow morning.

**August 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned today from a five-day trip to vote-rich Negros Occidental where he inaugurated the Silay-Sarabia Sugar Central in Silay City. He returned aboard the *RPS 21*, former *Pagasa*, and disembarked at the Philippine Navy landing by Roxas Boulevard.

He rested the whole morning from a five-day trip to Negros Occidental. His trip was marked with heavy swells which discomfited most of the passengers of the *RPS 21*.

The President is scheduled to leave again this morning for Quezon provinces where he will mark Quezon Day in Lucena City.

Upon landing at the wharf behind the Philippine Navy headquarters, the President was met by the First Lady and their daughter, Gloria.

In Malacañang the President received U. S. Ambassador William McCormick Blair, Jr., who presented the President this afternoon with an album of photographs of the moon by Ranger 7 last month. Mr. Blair likewise exchanged views with the President on new developments in Asia following reports on the Indonesian invasion of Malaysian territory.

After receiving the American envoy, the President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to the Philamlife building on United Nations Avenue. He was guest of honor and speaker at the opening of the annual fund and educational campaign of the Philippine Tuberculosis Society.

**August 19.**—LEAVING Malacañang after 9 a.m., enroute to Lucena City, the President's first stop was in San Pablo City which prepared a big reception, complete with fireworks and brass bands, upon learning that the President and the First Lady would be passing through on their way to Lucena.

President and Mrs. Macapagal were mobbed by their welcomers as soon as they alighted in the center of the city where huge crowds jammed the spacious Rizal Avenue, waving welcome placards urging him to run for reelection.

After a *te deum* said by the San Pablo parish priest, the President addressed a gathering of local officials at the local Ateneo gymnasium.

The President arrived in Lucena for the rites late in the afternoon. The First Couple were met at the city boundary by a huge crowd headed by Gov. Alcala and Lucena Mayor Mario L. Tagarao.

After making a floral offering at the Quezon monument and hearing *te deum* at the Lucena Cathedral, the President and the First Lady viewed a parade from a colorful platform in front of the cathedral.

Lucena City was also celebrating its third anniversary.

In a speech delivered in Lucena City this afternoon during ceremonies commemorating the 86th birth anniversary of President Quezon, the Chief Executive recalled some of the teachings of the departed leader and added that it is up to his successors to carry out his social justice program.

The President was introduced by Rep. Eladio Caliwara of Quezon. Other speakers at the ceremonies held in front the Lucena City cathedral were Gov. Anacleto Alcala, who delivered a welcome address, and Luis Lagdameo, who was master of ceremonies.

President Macapagal said his administration seeks to perpetuate the ideals that the President Quezon had “lived and died for—to insure social justice and to give more in law to those who have less in life.”

After the rites the President had a conference with provincial, city, municipal and barrio officials.

**August 20.**—THE President, did not receive callers this morning. He spent his time working over his speech at the inauguration of the *Akademya ng Wikang Pilipino*.

This afternoon the President received Admiral Ulysses Grant Sharp, commander-in-chief of the U.S. Pacific Command, who paid him a courtesy call.

Sharp arrived this morning at the US Naval station at Sangley Point in Cavite City for a two-day visit, during which he will attend the regular monthly meeting of the Philippine-United States Mutual Defense Board of which he is US co-chairman. With Sharp in calling on the President were US Ambassador William Blair, Jr., and Rear Admiral Jack Pendleton Monroe.

Later the President received a group of bankers who informed him that they were organizing a bank named United American Bank of Hawaii. The eighth bank to be established in Hawaii, it will have substantial Philippine capital. The bank, they said, is an expression of the improving status of the Filipino people in banking and finance.

Those who called on the Chief Executive were Vicente Jayme, Pastor Pablo, Erwin Thom, and Bernardo Bigoy. They were accompanied to Malacañang by PIA Director-General and Acting Finance Secretary Armand Fabella.

The President also conferred upon Supreme Court Justice Sabino Padilla the Philippine Legion of Honor, rank of commander, for his “excellent and inspiring record in the public service and for the integrity, honor, independence, dedication, and learning with which he performed his duties.”

Present at the conferment ceremonies held at the Malacañang Ceremonial Hall were immediate members of the family of the awardee, including his brothers—Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, Commissioner Benedicto Padilla, Nicanor, and Felix and his sister Florencia; Chief Justice Jose P. Bengson and Justices J.B.L. Reyes and Roberto Regala; and members of the diplomatic corps.

Afterwards, the President motored to PHHC where he distributed to some 50 PHHC tenants titles to their houses and lots.

President Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker this evening at the inauguration of the *Akademya ng Wikang Pilipino* held at the Petal Room of the Manila Hotel. In his speech the President gave assurance of full government support to the propagation of the national language.

President Macapagal signed a proclamation declaring the last week of August of every year as Barrio Official Week.

The President enjoined every mayor to hold programs during the week and to create a citizens committee to select during the week the most outstanding barrio council, barrio captain, and barrio councilman of his city or municipality.

The Chief Executive also ordered the Barrio Leaders Association of the Philippines to coordinate the observance of the week on a nationwide scale, in cooperation with government agencies and private civic organizations serving the rural areas.

**August 21.**—THIS morning the Chief Executive held his “Common Man’s Day” reception at Malacañang. Assisted by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, and a staff headed by Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar, the President received a total of 2,428 callers, including 16 delegations, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:55 p.m.

The President administered the oath to former Customs Commissioner Cesar Climaco as chairman of the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee in a ceremony held at Malacañang this afternoon.

“You have a big job to do and I am confident you can do it,” the President told Climaco after the induction.

Present at the rites were PAGCOM Vice-Chairman Juan Atencia, Assistant Director Natividad de Castro of the National Bureau of Investigation, and a few other friends of the inductee.

Climaco succeeds former PAGCOM Chairman Conrado N. Cajator, who was appointed undersecretary of general services.

After the ceremony the President received business executives connected with the projected construction of a 400-room multi-million peso Hilton Hotel, one of the pet projects of the Administration to encourage tourism in this country.

Other afternoon callers included General Manager Ramon Diaz of the Government Service Insurance System, Benigno Toda, Jr., and Rafael Igoa of the Philippine Air Lines.

In the evening the President motored to the Manila Hotel where he attended a dinner given by Governor Francisco Nepumoceno of Pampanga who was celebrating his birthday. Enroute to the Manila Hotel, the President dropped by the residence of Justice Sabino Padilla of the Supreme Court whom he congratulated on his 70th birthday.

**August 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker on two separate occasions today. The first was at the closing ceremonies of the National Defense College of the Philippines held at the Moran Hall in Fort Bonifacio, Rizal, this morning. The second was at the awards and induction ceremonies of the Provincial Press Club of the Philippines held at the National Press Club building this evening.

In his speech before graduates of the faculty course of the National Defense College, the President underscored the necessity of developing a thoroughly revitalized and competent core of civil and military officials “whose dedication to public service proceeds from nothing less than the noblest of motives.”

The President, together with the First Lady, was fetched from Malacañang by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr. Brig. General Ramon Gavino, college president, introduced the President.

At the Provincial Press Club affair in the evening, the President inducted the following officers:

Nick T. Enciso, president; Zoilo B. Dejaresco, executive vice-president; Manuel Mondejar, assistant executive vice-president; Hugo S. Estrada, vice-president for Northern Luzon; Pacifico de Guzman, vice-president for Central Luzon; Alfredo Tria, vice-president for Southern Luzon; Ramon Abellanos, vice-president for Eastern Visayas; Aurelio Locsin, vice-president for Western Visayas; Alfredo Cruz, vice-president for Northern Mindanao; Jose Ledesma, vice-president for Southern Mindanao; Cipriano Apolinario, treasurer; Manuel Silva, Secretary; and Lourdes Napalinga, assistant secretary.

Following his speaking engagement at Fort Bonifacio this morning, the President received the officers of the National Economic Protectionism Association (NEPA) whom he inducted into office.

They are George T. Marcelo, president; Francisco T. Teodoro, vice-president; Gil Puyat, Jr., secretary of the board; Carlos Sobreviñas, treasurer; Reynaldo Guevara, assistant treasurer; Cayetano Pineda, Jesus Tanchanco, R. R. de la Cruz, Victor Lim, directors; and Ernesto A. de Pedro, executive secretary.

The new NEPA board of directors presented the President, who is the honorary president of NEPA for 1964-65, with a testimonial plaque “in recognition of His Excellency’s moral support and encouragement of the national economic protectionism movement and for launching and implementing a socio-economic program designed to establish dynamic bases for future economic growth.”

In brief remarks following the presentation of the plaque, the President told the NEPA officers to carry on with their “good work because it is really important,” especially now that the people have become economy-conscious.

The President said that now, when everybody is interested in economics, a movement like NEPA will become one of the most vital factors in the country’s economic wellbeing. He explained that as long as the people’s preoccupation is political, as it was in the past, a movement like NEPA “is like dragging a very heavy load.” It is for this reason, the President said, that he cherishes the testimonial plaque presented him

“It is not mere ceremony; it is another evidence of the increasing effectiveness of our efforts to develop our economy so that our nation will get to work, the President said.

In the afternoon the President conferred with Rep. Tobias Fornier of Antique and Gov. Eduardo Joson of Nueva Ecija, who consulted him on problems of their respective localities.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: August 23-29, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**August 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent the day quietly at Malacañang today. Waking up early this morning, the President had a light breakfast. With him at breakfast was the First Lady.

After breakfast the President spent some time going over the Sunday morning newspapers. Then he repaired to his private study where he worked on some pending state papers.

Following a brief rest after lunch, the President resumed work in his study.

He went down to the Palace chapel in the evening and heard mass with members of his family.

**August 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met with Liberal representatives and senators at breakfast today to inform them that the regular congressmen, senators, and governors' day will be temporarily suspended to enable him to complete appointments to key offices and to make releases of funds.

This afternoon the President conferred with chiefs of police in suburban cities and towns on the peace and order situation in their respective areas.

Earlier this afternoon the President received Gemma Cruz and the members of the Bayanihan Philippine Dance Company who arrived this morning. Miss Cruz had just won the title of Miss International for 1964, while the Bayanihan dancers came from a successful tour of the United States, South America, and Mexico.

Gemma and the famous dancers were later honored at tea by the First Lady at the Malacañang Heroes Hall.

The President also received Pakistan Ambassador Abdul Malik and American Ambassador William M. Blair, Jr.

In the evening the President, together with the First Lady, motored to the Philippine Implementation Agency which is celebrating its second anniversary.

**August 25.**—THIS morning, the President conferred with Liberal Manila councilors on various pending city projects which await action by higher government authorities. Led by Vice-Mayor Herminio Astorga, the city aldermen were Jose Sembrano, Martin Isidro, Cesar Lucero, Jr., Leonardo Fugoso, Ambrosio Mendoza, Mariano Magsalin, Eduardo Quintos, Jr., Avelino Villacorta, and Jose Villanueva.

President Macapagal, accompanied by the First Lady, was guest speaker at the cornerstone laying ceremonies at the new site of the Central Bank of the Philippines opposite the Philippine Navy headquarters this afternoon. The First Lady unveiled the marker of the proposed 18-storey multi-million peso edifice.

The President said that because there was much rain during the ceremonies, it might be that the Central Bank will "rain" funds for the economic development of the country.

After the cornerstone laying and unveiling rites, the President and the First Lady, accompanied by Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, repaired to the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel where cocktails were served. The other guests followed them there.

Earlier this afternoon the President received Shigeo Horie, president and chairman of the board of directors of the Bank of Tokyo, Ltd who paid a courtesy call. Horie was accompanied by Jose Ventura, brother of the late Honorio Ventura, the President's benefactor, and Horie's secretary Kenzie Yoshizawa.

The President left for the Central Bank rites after receiving Horie.

**August 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal this morning addressed delegates to the 12th annual convention of the Philippine Sugar Technologists at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel.

In his speech the President urged the sugar technologists to continue conducting researches on sugar by-products to bring added income to sugar producers and to cushion the economy from fluctuations of sugar prices.

The President was fetched from Malacañang by Philsutech President Loreto V. Valero, who also introduced him to the delegates. Back in Malacañang at 10:45 a.m., the President acted on some official papers.

Later, he and the First Lady motored to the Archbishop's Palace in Intramuros to greet His Eminence Rufino J. Cardinal Santos on his 56th birth anniversary today.

In the afternoon the President presided over a meeting of his Cabinet which lasted up to early evening.

Before meeting the Cabinet the Chief Executive received Cebu Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., and Surigao del Sur Gov. Adela Serra Ty.

Mayor Osmeña sought the early release of public works fund for the construction of roads in his city in preparation for the 4th centennial celebration of the propagation of Christianity in the Philippines.

Gov. Ty consulted the President on matters concerning her province. She also accompanied Mayor Aliomado Masangkay and Councilor Agapito Lagrosa of Bislig, who took their oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party before the President.

The President this evening referred to the Presidential Committee on the Disposal of Valuable Corporate Properties for further study, the proposed sale by the Government Service Insurance System of its shares in the Philippine Air Lines.

The President took this action after he and the Cabinet heard GSIS Manager Ramon A. Diaz report on the GSIS resolution approving the sale of the GSIS shares in PAL to a corporation headed by Benigno Toda, Jr.

During the Cabinet meeting Diaz explained that the sale of GSIS shares in PAL would enable the GSIS not only to make a profit for its members but also to avoid the "adverse consequences" which would result from the effectivity on September 8 of a recent Supreme Court decision that PAL is a government-controlled corporation. Diaz also said the sale is in line with the government's policy of withdrawing from enterprises which are already adequately served by the private sector.

Diaz also said that the sale of PAL shares was "a decision of the GSIS alone" and that "neither Mr. Toda nor PAL has anything to do with such decision or with the administration of the PAL share held by the GSIS."

President Macapagal and the First Lady were guests of honor at the annual President's Night of the Manila Overseas Press Club held at the MOPC clubhouse in the Admiral Apartments this evening. Highlight of the evening was a foreign policy speech by the Chief Executive.

**August 27.**—THIS morning the President motored to San Luis, Pampanga, where he inaugurated the Administration's second land reform project. During the ceremonies the President signed as witness to the leasehold contract between Francisco Diaz, land-owner, and Tomas David, tenant-lessee.

Among the notables present at the program were some diplomatic representatives, Govs. Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga and Benigno Aquino, Jr., of Tarlac and Reps. Juanita Nepomuceno of Pampanga and Primo Villasin of Leyte.

After the program the President had lunch at the San Luis Elementary School building. He motored back to Manila shortly thereafter, arriving at Malacañang at 2:35 p.m.

The President spent the rest of the afternoon placing the finishing touches to his speech at the MOPC.

**August 28.**—THIS morning the President and the First Lady motored to the office of the Bureau of Plant Industry where the President awarded the prizes to the winners of the 1963-1964 National Rice and Corn Production Contest held by the BPI. The President was assisted by Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano.

Shortly before the awarding of the prizes, Mrs. Macapagal officiated at the cutting of the ceremonial ribbon formally opening the Farmer's Day exhibits being held at the bureau compound.

Because of a heavy rain, the President and the First Lady viewed the exhibits under umbrellas. Then they proceeded to the social hall of the bureau where the program was held.

From the Bureau of Plant Industry, the president and the First Lady motored to the *Libingan ng mga Bayani* at Fort Bonifacio.

"Why no more questions? the President asked as the newsmen adjourned the off-and-on press conference this afternoon.

The President waited for more questions, but the newsmen found out that they had enough with President Macapagal's announcement that he might go on a state visit to the United States this year.

After his press conference the President conferred with his advisers; namely, Secretary of Justice Salvador L. Mariño, Secretary of National Defense Macario Peralta, Jr., Program Implementation Agency Director Armand Fabella, and Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar.

Before presiding over his weekly press conference, the President received Chinese Ambassador Han Lih Wu and French Ambassador and Mrs. Emile de Curton.

The French envoy and his wife, Christian, informed the President they will be leaving for France sometime next month.

**August 29.**—EXCEPT for General Marcos Soliman, chief of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, who took up with the Chief Executive this morning matters concerning his office, the President did not receive any other callers.

He devoted most of his time to working on official papers and studying proposed appointments to key positions in the government.

The President dropped in at the house of Speaker Villareal this afternoon to greet and welcome him personally on his return from a brief Southeast Asian trip yesterday.

In the evening the President and the First Lady were guests of honor at a dinner held at the Manila Hotel on the occasion of Marcelo H. del Pilar Day. The President was the principal speaker at the affair.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: August 30 - September 5, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**August 30.**—THE President spent his time quietly the whole day working on official papers. He started his paper work in his private study having breakfast with Mrs. Macapagal, and then again in the afternoon after a brief siesta.

President Macapagal laid aside customary practice today by walking his way from the Palace to the St. Jude's church on Jose P. Laurel Street where he and the First Lady heard mass. The President walked back to the Palace after the mass in the manner of an afternoon constitutional.

In the evening the First Couple tendered a black tie dinner in honor of American Ambassador and Mrs. William McCormick Blair, Jr.

Among those present were some members of the Cabinet and the diplomatic corps., American military officials, and local business leaders.

**August 31.**—THIS morning the President received a group of Japanese engineering consultants who reported on studies they had conducted on the modernization of the Philippine National Railways.

Headed by Japan Engineering Consultants (JECKK) President Tokio Nagayama, the Japanese experts were Suitiro Satoh, chief of the first Japanese consultants team that arrived in Manila early this month; Sinji Okada, former senator and ministry of transportation of Japan; Kazunori Nakamura, JECKK director; and Kaneo Yamamura, former board member of the Bank of Japan. They were accompanied to Malacañang by OEC Administrator Eleuterio Adevos and PNR Chairman Fernando E. V. Sison.

Later the President received two provincial delegations headed by Gov. Teresita Dupaya and Rep. Tito Dupaya of Cagayan and Rep. Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur. They requested the President the early release of public works projects in their localities.

With the Zamboanga group were Mayors Herman Santiago of Margosatubig and Florentine Arrosal of Alicia, who took their oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party before the President.

The President also received Rafael Recto, president of the Philippine National Bank.

This afternoon the President received Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, who reported on his mission to the United States which included the successful negotiation for a reciprocal tax treaty with the US, the extension of the \$5-million loan to the Philippine government for the modernization of the Manila International Airport, and the early solution of the controversy over PAL flights to the United States.

President Macapagal was guest of honor this afternoon at the 1964 Ramon Magsaysay Awards presentation ceremonies held at the Philamlife auditorium in United Nations Avenue. The awards ceremonies were part of the celebration of the 57th birth anniversary of the late President.

Among the awardees who received \$10,000 each from the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation was a Filipino rural banker, Pablo T. Tapia of Tanauan, Batangas, who was cited for community leadership for leading a rural banking movement that successfully curbed usurious practices in his community.

Other awardees were:

1. Welthy Honsinger Fisher who was cited for international understanding by founding the Literacy House in Lucknow, India;



2. Yukinaru Miki who was cited for government service for having guided the transition of the Okayama prefecture in Japan from a rural-economy to an industrial center;

3. Fr. Augustine Nguyen Loc Hoa, a Vietnamese soldier-priest who was cited for public service for leading his parishioners from Chinese persecution to sanctuary in South Vietnam; and

4. Richard G. Wilson and Kayser Sung, editor and publisher and managing editor, respectively, of the Far East Economic Review, who were cited for journalism and literature.

In the evening the President and the First Lady tendered a formal dinner at Malacañang in honor of the awardees.

**September 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred at breakfast today with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal. During the conference which lasted from 8:45 to 10:15 a.m. at the Palace, Speaker Villareal briefed the President on his recent trip with reference to Vietnam, Laos, and Malaysia. They also took up the U.S. new invitation to the President for a state visit and the question of key appointments in the government.

Following the breakfast conference, the President received Gov. Carmeling Crisologo and Rep. Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur on matters affecting their province.

The President spent the afternoon working on pending official papers which needed immediate action.

In the evening the President and the First Lady tendered a formal dinner in honor of some 50 banking and monetary officials of 16 Latin-American countries who are holding a three-day conference here preparatory to attending the forthcoming annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Rehabilitation and Development in Tokyo on September 7 to 11.

At their opening session held at the World Health Organization building on United Nations Avenue, the Latin-American banking and monetary officials elected Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo as their chairman for the Tokyo meet. They are holding their traditional annual meeting in Manila upon the invitation extended to them by Governor Castillo in Washington, D.C., last year to give special accent on the celebration this year of Philippine-Mexico Year. Mexico is one of the Latin-American countries participating in the Tokyo conference.

Among those present at the dinner held at the Malacañang Heroes Hall were Philippine monetary officials, like Governor Castillo and Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, and local industrial and business leaders.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation declaring the period from September 12 to 19 of every year as Civil Service Week to focus public attention on the significant role the civil service system plays in national development.

In his proclamation the President said that “a strong civil service, based on the merit principle, is an essential factor in a stable, responsible, and democratic government.”

He designated the Civil Service Commission to coordinate all activities in the observance of the week. He also directed the heads of various departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the government, including government-owned and controlled corporations, to hold appropriate programs and ceremonies during the week in honor of civil servants throughout the country.

President Macapagal today ordered the dismissal of a municipal judge for gross ignorance of law and court procedures. Ordered dismissed was Judge Aristotle A. Tuason of Vigan, Ilocos Sur.

The President, in an administrative order, said that Judge Tuason showed gross ignorance of the law when he simultaneously discharged the duties of two inconsistent positions of municipal judge and municipal councilor for nine months and collected emoluments for both offices.

The President pointed out that “respondent seriously impaired and compromised his position as municipal judge when he affixed his signature as councilor to a resolution of the municipal council endorsing the candidacy of a certain candidate.”

**September 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal had a heart-to-heart talk this morning with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal during which the latter reiterated his support of the reelection of the President in 1965. The meeting at Malacañang between the President and the Speaker lasted from 9:05 a.m. to 11:11 a.m.

Shortly after his conference with Speaker Villareal, the President received SSS Administrator Bernardino Abes, who reported on the progress of administrative reforms in the Social Security System.

In the afternoon the President presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

In the evening the President and the First Lady were guests of honor at the induction of the members of the new board of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines at the Manila Hotel.

The President delivered the keynote address after inducting the following new CCP officers: Demetrio A. Muños, president; Aurelio A. Periquet, Jr., vice-president; Benito F. Medina, secretary-treasurer; and Primitivo Lovina, Pio Pedrosa, Francisco Delgado, P. B. Dionisio, Teofilo Reyes, Jr., Jose P. Tambunting, Vincent L. Recto, and Perfecto Mañalac, directors.

**September 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received executives and supervisors of the Bureau of Lands who are in Manila on a general conference.

The Bureau of Lands officials presented the Chief Executive with a facsimile of a cadastral register which he signed in 1927 when he was an employee of the office as a P30-a-month clerk.

The President showed these two facsimile to the newsmen after the press conference which went down as the briefest yet held in Malacañang. It lasted no longer than 20 minutes.

Before presiding over his regular press conference, the President posed for pictures with the Bureau of Lands men, together with Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano and Director Nicanor Jorge. The President said he was very happy to have as guests Bureau of Lands officials, as he once worked with the bureau.

Earlier this afternoon the President received Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez with whom he discussed matters concerning the Malaysia situation. Lopez informed the President of developments in Malaysia, including the landing of paratroops near Singapore.

Sen. Gerardo Roxas also called on the President. No announcement was made by the Malacañang press office on the outcome of the President’s meeting with Sen. Roxas.

The President today cancelled his weekly visit to his mother-in-law’s residence in San Juan, Rizal, where he receives local officials every Thursday. Malacañang said that the President decided to work on pending state papers, including proposed appointments which he intends to release for publication either this evening or tomorrow.

**September 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent more than eight hours attending to thousands of callers at his regular Common Man’s Day reception at Malacañang today.

Among the callers were large delegations of local political leaders from different parts of the country which simply pledged their support in case the President ran for reelection. Led by mayors, barrio captains, and other local leaders, many members of such delegations requested accreditation cards from the Liberal Party so that they could participate more actively in the election campaign.

In the course of the reception the President administered the oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party to a group of political leaders from Dinalupihan, Bataan. Headed by Mayor Jose C. Payumo, Jr., those inducted were Councilors Serafin Peñaflor, Deogracias Mendoza, Ricardo Nacu, Lamberto Pangilinan, Emilio Malit, and other leaders, including 17 barrio captains.

The President also received a resolution from LP ward leaders in Manila's third district headed by Rep. Ramon Bagatsing and Councilor Sergio H. Loyola urging him to run for re-election. In their resolution the Manila Liberals said it is the consensus that the President should be given another term so that he can complete his program of government.

Assisted by the First Lady and a staff headed by Acting Executive Secretary Calixto O. Zaldivar, the Chief Executive started receiving visitors at about 8 a.m. He received a total of 4,487 persons, including 24 large delegations which presented problems of their respective localities.

Angelina Ponce, president of the Philippine Midwifery Association, headed a group of midwives who protested against the projected closing of midwifery schools.

Acting Health Secretary Rodolfo T. Caños had proposed that nurses be required instead to take postgraduate courses in midwifery, patterned after the current practice in the United States and England.

A delegation representing the Parents-Teachers Association of the Tomas Earnshaw Elementary School headed by its president, Amado Jorge, requested the construction of a river control dike along Ariston Bautisla Street by the Pasig River in Sta. Ana, Manila.

The President received callers continuously from 8 a.m. to past 4 p.m., taking time out only for a hurried lunch of soup and sandwiches shortly before 1 p.m.

President Macapagal early this evening boarded a special train at the Sta. Mesa railroad station for a trip to the South. During the trip the President will inspect public works projects and confer with local officials on the needs of their localities.

**September 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived in Legaspi City at 8 o'clock this morning aboard a special presidential train. He was met by a crowd headed by Gov. Jose Estevez, Sen. Tecla San Andres Ziga, Rep. Venancio Ziga, and provincial officials at the railroad station.

The President was accompanied by Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes, Presidential Housing Assistant Pete de Jesus, Railroad Manager Dominador Asis, and Transportation Undersecretary Jose Lachicn. Mayor Los Banos served breakfast for the President and his party upon their arrival.

Upon arrival the Chief Executive proceeded to the city church for a *Te Deum* after which he inaugurated a supermarket. He later motored to the Albay Normal School where he had another crowd.

After addressing the crowd at the Normal School, the President motored to Tabaco where he visited the scene of the recent fire which razed the commercial district of the town.

Addressing the crowd which gathered around him, the President assured the people of speedy relief, and directed SWA official Teofilo Asuncion to rush the aid to the fire victims.

The President was luncheon guest of Sen. and Rep. Ziga at their residence.

From Tabaco, the President motored to Ligao where he will be *merienda* guest of Rep. Josefina Duran. His visit to Ligao was to mollify the congresswoman who is reported to be feuding with Sen. Ziga.

From Ligao, the President is expected in Legaspi City this evening to be dinner guest of Gov. Estevez after which he will board Navy boat *RPS 21* for Masbate on the second leg of his eight-day tour of the South.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

**President's Week in Review: September 6-12, 1964**

## President's Week in Review: September 13-19, 1964

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**September 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent a busy weekend today following his arrival yesterday from an eight-day inspection tour of the south. Waking up early this morning, the President read the Sunday newspapers. Then a light breakfast, he devoted the whole morning over a pile of state papers.

Resting after a late lunch, he received some callers in the afternoon. Rep. Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental and Lt. Governor Jose P. Neri of Camiguin sub-province called to thank the Chief Executive for having visited Mambajao where he inaugurated the new airport and a hospital annex.

The President also received Zambales Gov. Rafael Barretto. He accompanied other officials in his province who paid a farewell call on the eve of their departure for Formosa where they will observe agricultural techniques.

Gov. Barretto had arranged with the Nationalist Chinese government for the tour which will be sponsored by the Joint Commission on Rural Rehabilitation of Taipeh. The Zambales officials going on a 10-day tour of Formosa are scheduled to leave 11 a.m. tomorrow and will be headed by Vice-Gov. Quirico Abrajano, himself an agriculturist.

Others in the mission included Board Members Tiburcio Edaña, Jr., and Sancho C. Abasta; Mayors Agosto F. Dantes of Cabangan, Dominador G. Bundang of Castillejos, Benjamin A. Farin of Iba, Pedro Edaña of Masinloc, Alberto P. Ariño of San Antonio, Buenaventura Altares, Jr., of Palauig; Vicente F. Rosete of San Felipe, Leopoldo F. Rabanes of San Marcelino, Francisco A. Galvez, Jr., of San Narciso, and Alfonso C. Tang-son of Santa Cruz; provincial agriculturist Nicomedes Pezarro and the Bureau of Plant Industry representative of Zambales, Guillermo Abaya.

In the evening after receiving his callers, the Chief Executive heard mass at the Palace chapel.

**September 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was reported “fuming” today “after waiting for Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal for their scheduled conference but the latter, who is the president of the Liberal Party, stood up the Chief Executive.

The two LP leaders were scheduled to confer at 10 o'clock this morning to map out their program of staggering the national executive committee meeting today.

Dressed in barong Tagalog, the President waited in his study together with his advisers, but up to 11:20 a.m., the expected guest did not show up.

Speaker Villareal said he had an engagement to receive some foreign visitors.

It was a crucial political development in the LP, which may break up the Administration party. The two LP chieftains have been reported at loggerheads over the management of party affairs.

At 11:20 a.m. the President left the Palace smarting from what his advisers claimed was a “slur” by Villareal. He repaired to the guest house, *Pangarap*, across the Pasig River, where he conferred with his advisers on the new political developments.

Before leaving the Palace the President left word that, if the Speaker showed up, he would be available. The President waited the whole afternoon for the guest who did not show up.

After receiving information that Speaker Villareal had called a press conference, explaining his side, President Macapagal also invited Malacañang newsmen for his own session to explain his side.

This evening the President addressed the Quezon City Chamber of Commerce and Industry at the D & E Restaurant in Quezon City.

**September 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today presided over a luncheon conference of the national executive committee of the Liberal Party held at the Quezon City residence of Deputy Economic Coordinator Teofilo Reyes, Sr.

The President has provisionally assumed the presidency of the party upon the suggestion and petitions of party leaders throughout the country to bolster the chances of the party for victory in 1965.

Prior to the meeting with the executive committee, the President and Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal conferred for over an hour in an upstairs room of the Reyes residence. The President arrived at the Reyes residence for the conference at 11:45 a.m. He was followed ten minutes later by Speaker Villareal.

After the executive committee meeting which lasted up to 2:30 p.m., the President motored back to Malacañang where he spent the rest of the afternoon working on official papers.

Early in the evening the President motored to Caloocan City where he headed the guest of honor at the inauguration of the BUPAR Motors Corporation. The President was fetched from Malacañang by Bienvenido P. Buan, president and general manager of the corporation.

President Macapagal today (Monday, Sept. 14) ordered the dismissal of a municipal judge for dereliction of duty, gross insubordination, and absenting himself from office for long periods of time without leave “to the great prejudice of the service.”

Ordered dismissed was Ernesto P. Purruganan, municipal judge of Buguey, Cagayan. His dismissal was the result of an administrative proceeding instituted by the district judge of Cagayan for undue delay in the disposition of a criminal case and in the forwarding of bail bonds to the district judge in two other criminal cases.

The investigating judge found Purruganan guilty in both counts and recommended that he be asked to resign and, if he refused to do so, that he be dismissed. The secretary of justice who concurred in the investigator’s findings likewise recommended respondent’s dismissal for cause.

**September 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received foreign businessmen who arrived in Manila recently to observe economic conditions and explore investments possibilities. Received at breakfast by the President were officials of the Hanover Trust Company in New York headed by Gabriel Hauge, president. The American firm has an office and some financial commitments here.

During the discussion of the economic development efforts of the country, Hauge expressed satisfaction with the policies of the Administration, particularly in its commitments to the free enterprise system. The American banking official also expressed faith in the development and growth of the country.

Received later in the morning by the President was Aurelio Peccei, managing director of Olivetti Corporation and head of the Italconsult, the biggest management and investment firm in Italy. Credited with having raised Fiat to its feet, Peccei arrived recently to explore the possibilities of investments in the Philippines.

In their talks Peccei told the President that he was very much interested in the economic gains and stability of the country. The President told Peccei that he would like more investments from Europe to come into the country.

With Hauge in having breakfast with the Chief Executive were Harry Barrand, Tristan Beplat, Harold Smith, and Clifford Harkness, all officials of the Hanover Trust Company.

Also at the breakfast table were Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, PIA Director-General Armand Fabella, Rep. Jose Cojuangco and Gov. Benigno Aquino, Jr., of Tarlac, Manuel Marquez of the Bankers' Association, Pedro Cojuangco, and Ricardo Lupa.

Peccei was accompanied in his call on the President by Italian Ambassador Eugenio Rubino, NEC Chairman Hilarion Henares, Jr., and Claude Wilson, Jr., and Howard G. Quinn of the Business Machines Corporation in Manila.

Towards noontime the President received Ismael Tiburias and Florentino Garcia, chairman and board member, respectively, of the Chamber of Filipino Retailers who discussed with him ways of attaining stability in prices. The President asked the two chamber officials to submit their proposals in writing for his study and guidance.

Other presidential morning callers were some members of Congress and provincial and city officials who, aside from taking up local matters with him, also expressed their support to the President's temporary assumption of the presidency of the Liberal Party to bolster the party's chance of victory in the 1965 polls.

Among them were Reps. Guillermo Sambo of Misamis Oriental, Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Luis Hora and J. Duyan of Mountain Province, and Tereso Dumon of Cebu; Govs. Francisco Duque of Pangasinan and Arsenio Villarosa of Oriental Mindoro; and City Mayor Liberato Reyna of Cabatuan.

The President also received a delegation from Bataan headed by Commerce Undersecretary Medina Lacson de Leon which witnessed the induction into office by the President of Ursino Manalansang as acting vice-governor of the province.

Manalansang will temporarily perform the duties of vice-governor in the place of Vice-Gov. Guillermo Arcenas, who is now acting governor in the absence of Gov. Pedro B. Dizon who is abroad.

Present at the induction ceremony held at the President's study were, aside from Undersecretary De Leon, Board Members Ben Pascual and Ruperto Mariano, Veterans Deputy Commissioner Ruperto Estanislao, Don Pablo Roman, Toribio Sioson, and R. Alfuentes.

In the afternoon the President received representatives of three political parties in West Germany who had been in the Philippines since Friday observing the social, labor, and educational conditions here. Accompanied by Ambassador Johann von Stechow and Dr. Reinhold Schenk of the embassy of the Federal Republic of West Germany here, the group paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive. They are leaving tomorrow. The German observers are Herrmann Schmitt Vockenhausen, Mrs. Elfriede Eilers, Thomas Ruff, and Karl Heubner.

Later, the President met the Philippine athletic contingent to the Tokyo Olimpiad who paid a farewell call. The athletic team was accompanied to the President by PAAF President Antonio de las Alas and Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, chairman of the Asian Basketball Conference.

This evening the President presided over a regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

**September 17.**—THIS MORNING the President received Vice-Admiral Carlo Paladini, commander of the 5th naval division and head of the Italian naval academy; and Capt. G. Galluccio, skipper of the Italian cruiser *Andrea Doria*, who paid him a courtesy call.

Paladini arrived on board the *Andrea Doria*, one of the most modern ships in the Italian Navy, which dropped anchor at Manila's South Harbor this morning for a four-day stay. He took charge of this year's 22,000-national-mile training cruise for some 270 cadets of the Italian Naval Academy.



With Paladini and Galluccio in calling on the President were Capt. Ulrico Laccetti, Commander George Belliard, and Lt. Niccolo Rosselli. They were accompanied by French Ambassador Eugenio Rubino and Ambassador Tomas Benitez.

Later this morning the President received provincial and other local officials who took up local matters with him. A delegation of municipal mayors from Cagayan led by Rep. Benjamin Ligot called to reiterate their pledge of support to the President. Other local officials at Malacañang this morning included Govs. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Alfredo Lamen of Mountain Province, and Jose Villarama of Bulacan.

In the afternoon the President presided over a formal press conference.

Early this evening the President received MPD Chief Eduardo Quintos and NBI Director Jose Lukban, who reported on the progress on the drive against gangsterism in Manila and the suburbs. The President had previously directed an intensification of the drive against hooliganism.

Quintos and Lukban recommended to the President the use by the different police agencies of a communication network that would facilitate transmission of information and closer coordination among them. They also recommended that more vehicles be furnished the police forces for greater mobility.

President Macapagal today tendered a dinner in honor of Pierre Paul Schweitzer, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, who arrived early this afternoon from the IMF annual meeting in Tokyo.

Earlier this evening Schweitzer paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive. With Schweitzer during his call and at the dinner was an IMF staff composed of D. S. Savkar, director of the Asian department; W. Peter Cooke, assistant to the managing director; and Jay Reid, information officer, all of whom arrived with him this afternoon.

Also present at the dinner were Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez; Finance Secretary Rufino Hechanova; Sen. Jose J. Roy, chairman of the Senate committee on banks; Rep. Floro S. Crisologo, chairman of the House committee on Banks, Governor Andres V. Castillo and Deputy Governor Amado R. Brinas of the Central Bank; Carlos Sobreviñas, Pablo Lorenzo, and Mariano Peñaflorida, members of the Monetary Board; Manuel J. Marquez, president of the Bankers Association of the Philippines; Alfred MacKenzie, resident representative of the UNTAB; former Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr.; Leslie Melville, chief of the IBRD resident advisory; French Ambassador Emile de Curton; Pierre Delaplanque, president of the French chamber of commerce; and Jean Belloir of the French embassy.

**September 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was enthusiastically welcomed by the people of Nueva Ecija upon his arrival there today. He motored to that city where he attended a convention of the Federation of Barrio Captains and Councilors, and inducted their newly-elected officers.

Inducted were Francisco Mendoza of Munoz, president; Perfecto Molina of Gapan, vice-president; Cirilo Duatin of Karanglan, secretary; and Manuel Santos of Laur, treasurer.

In his speeches there the President expounded on the accomplishment of the Administration during the last two and a half years. He was introduced by Sen. Juan R. Liwag, as “the real friend of the masses,” to the bipartisan crowd of provincial, municipal, and barrio officials as well as to the leaders of 567 barrios and 31 towns of Nueva Ecija at the stadium of the local school of arts and trades.

Nueva Ecija Gov. Eduardo L. Josen, who delivered the welcome remarks, informed the President that his people welcomed him with open arms, “not as Liberals or Nacionalistas, but as Novo Ecijanos who will always love him.”

Accompanied by Sen. Liwag, the President left Malacañang at about 9: 50 a.m. Also with his party were Acting Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes, Presidential Assistant Pete de Jesus, SWA Head Executive Assistant Teofilo Asuncion, and a group of Manila newsmen.

Reaching the Bulacan-Nueva Ecija boundary at about 11 a.m., the Presidential motorcade was welcomed by a delegation of provincial and municipal officials headed by Gov. Joson.

With the welcoming delegation was Cabanatuan City Mayor Mario S. Garcia, a Nacionalista, who joined the President in the No. 1 car and escorted him to Cabanatuan.

After lunch at the Cabanatuan provincial motor pool the President proceeded to the trade school stadium for the ceremonies. From the stadium the President dropped in at about 5 p.m. at the Philippine Wesleyan College upon the invitation of its president, former Social Welfare Administrator Asuncion Perez. He addressed the faculty members and student body of the college.

From the convocation the Chief Executive left for Manila where he was expected to arrive about 8 p.m.

**September 19.**—THE President conferred today with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal on the latter's trip to the United States next week with a view to complete understanding on policy statements. The meeting lasted from 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

At noon the President was main speaker and guest of the Filipino Distributors Association, Inc., (FDA), during its 9th National Convention held at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel. In his speech the President reminded the distributors all over the country that they have a vital role in building up a pioneer democratic society in Asia and in proving that freedom and economic prosperity are compatible and complementary.

The President was fetched from Malacañang by Santiago Garcia, Jr., FDA president. He was introduced by NAMARCO General Manager Jose D. Calderon. Back in Malacañang at 1:40 p.m., the President rested for some time.

Later he had a merienda conference at the Malacañang Heroes Hall with all the chiefs of police in Luzon on the all-out drive against criminality.

In the evening the President was guest of honor and principal speaker at a dinner held at the New Selecta on Roxas Boulevard in connection with the celebration of Law Day.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

**President's Week in Review: September 20 - October 3, 1964**

## **President's Week in Review: October 4-10, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**October 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal landed in San Francisco, California, this evening (San Francisco time) only a few minutes from their departure from Manila. This was so, because the President and his party lost one day upon crossing the international dateline.

The Chief Executive and the First Lady landed there aboard a U.S. Air Force jetliner, and was met by two U.S. candidates, Senator Hubert Humphrey, Democratic vice-presidential candidate, and Senator Pierre Salinger, a recent Manila visitor, who had to cut short his tour of Asia to get an appointment to the Senate.

The President also met Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal there and touched off speculations that the Philippine Chief Executive and the House leader have definitely kissed and made up.

There were talks that the President had brought with him a Liberal Party spokesman. Vicente Isaac, to cover the political aspects of his visit to the U.S.

The President landed in San Francisco with the First Lady and their 17-year old daughter, Gloria, who met them at Honolulu.

**October 5.**—AFTER an overnight stay in San Francisco, the first city he touched in the US mainland, President Macapagal enplaned for Virginia and landed at Langley Air Force Base.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady and the members of his official party, landed aboard US Air Force One, the jetliner which met him at Honolulu. With him are daughter Gloria, Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez, and Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, and other officials of his party.

He changed planes at the Langley Air Force Base, and took a helicopter to Norfolk where he laid a wreath at the tomb of Gen. Douglas MacArthur as a salute to the American general who liberated the Philippines during the last war.

After a mass at Williamsburg, the President enplaned for Washington to start his official talks with President Johnson.

Reports reaching Manila this evening said that President and Mrs. Macapagal landed at the White House lawn aboard a helicopter at 7:40 p.m. (Manila time), and were met personally by President and Mrs. Johnson. Full military honors were accorded the visiting Philippine dignitaries at the White House lawn.

The President, Mrs. Macapagal, and Gloria, were billeted at the Blair House, official guesthouse for visiting dignitaries.

**October 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred with US President Johnson in the White House and, according to reports reaching Manila, received "firm and effective" support from the US Government to any breach of peace and freedom in this area.

The Chief Executive and President Johnson conferred privately yesterday and their discussions, according to reports, ranged from "matters of mutual concern to the Philippines and the United States."

It was not known whether the President and President Johnson took up the raging issues in the country over the abrogation of parity rights and the revision of the Laurel-Langley Agreement.

Toward the end of their talks the two Presidents were joined by other high officials of both countries. It was the first of two days which President Macapagal had scheduled for his stay in Washington. He may see the US President again today.

President and Mrs. Macapagal drove through historic Pennsylvania Avenue with President and Mrs. Johnson. After their visit to the White House, President and Mrs. Macapagal were escorted anew by President and Mrs. Johnson to the Blair House, where the Philippine First Family is staying while in Washington.

At noontime President and Mrs. Macapagal were honored with a luncheon given by Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Dean Rusk at the Benjamin Franklin Room of the State Department building.

This evening the visiting Philippine dignitaries were honored with a state dinner at the White House.

**October 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal of the Philippines ended today a two-day state visit to Washington with U.S. officials highly pleased with results of his conferences with President Johnson and Secretary of State Dean Rusk.

President Macapagal's U.S. airforce jet left Andrews airforce base near Washington at 8:37 a.m. for Pittsburgh, the next stop on the President's 12-day tour of the United States. He landed at the Greater Pittsburgh airport today at 9:35 a.m. on a flight from Washington.

Rusk headed the U.S. delegation at farewell ceremonies which were cut short by chilly, 41-degree temperature. Neither Macapagal nor Rusk made a farewell statement.

U.S. officials, however, said they were pleased by several aspects of the Macapagal visit. They included:

1. Macapagal's expression of complete support for U.S. policy on South Vietnam.
2. His desire that the Philippines do more to help the South Vietnam government.
3. Macapagal's strong statement on the Malaysian controversy and his criticism of Indonesia for landing troops in the Malayan peninsula.

During his two-day stay there, President Macapagal discussed with President Johnson subjects ranging from the sale of rice to the Chinese communist threat in Southeast Asia.

Concrete agreements on basic issues were few but the two Presidents helped lay a solid groundwork that was almost certain to strengthen the already close ties between the U.S. and the Philippines.

The U.S. laid out its most luxurious red carpet for President Macapagal in Washington in an obvious attempt to impress upon him and the Philippine nation the deep respect the United States holds for the Philippines.

The President responded by emphasizing his nation's support for U.S. policies in Southeast Asia and in reaffirming once again the Philippines' firm commitment to democratic processes. All was not an exchange of platitudes between the two Presidents, however, as evidenced by the joint communique issued at the White House last evening after their final conference.

The communique disclosed that they had discussed no less than 10 economics issues between the two countries, in addition to foreign affairs.

One of President Macapagal's major pronouncements of his Washington stay was not reflected in the communique, however. He used the occasion of his address before the National Press club Tuesday to declare that the "minimum

condition” for resumption of negotiations between Indonesia and Malaysia was the withdrawal of guerrillas from Malaysia.

He also addressed the annual meeting of UPI editors and declared that even though the Philippines was coming toward closer association with other Afro-Asian nations, his nation was not drawing away from the western democracies.

Throughout his talks with President Johnson, President Macapagal gave his support to U.S. policies in Southeast Asia. The two Presidents according to the communique “pledged themselves to maintain the unity of commitment and purpose between their countries in defense of the right of the free nations of Southeast Asia to determine their own future.”

They also “reaffirmed their intention to stand by the people of South Vietnam and reiterated their commitment to the defense of Southeast Asia under the SEATO treaty,” the communique said.

Johnson and Macapagal, the communique said, agreed that Communist China continued to present an “imminent threat in the Far East. In this connection, they reviewed the mutual defense treaty between the two nations and “reaffirmed their commitment to meet any threat that might arise against their security.”

“President Johnson made it clear,” the communique said, that in accordance with these existing alliances. . . any armed attack against the Philippines would be regarded as an attack against United States forces stationed there and would instantly be repelled.”

On the economic side, President Johnson “indicated” the U.S. would donate 25,000 tons of grain to Philippine typhoon victims and would sell the Philippines 100,000 tons of rice under the food for peace program.

The President also agreed to form a joint committee to ensure greatest use of the special fund for education provided for under the War Damage act.

The communique also noted that President Johnson had expressed to President Macapagal U.S. concern over the Philippine retail trade nationalization law, which would require all retail businesses in the Philippines to be 100 per cent Filipino or American-owned.

The communique said President Johnson pointed out that the law would seriously impair economic relations between the two countries.

President Macapagal reaffirmed in his N.P.C. talk the recommendation he made at a White House dinner last night that “some free Asian nations” should join in the defense of South Vietnam.

He stressed that it was vital to gain the support of the Vietnamese people themselves in the fight against communism. He called it “the difference between success and failure.”

President Macapagal was asked a number of questions concerning U.S. Philippine relations. He answered most of them with a general statement that all pending problems between the two countries could be worked out “on the basis of mutual respect and sovereign equality.”

His biggest problem as President of the Philippines, he said, is the fact that his political opposition has had the control of the Senate. Even so, he added the Administration had been able to “lay the basic ground to move forward in freedom.” He said he did not think anti-Americanism would be an issue in the forthcoming Philippine election campaign.

Concerning last week’s demonstration against the Laurel-Langley trade agreement in Manila, he said he had received word that there were communists among the demonstrators.

The National Press club presented President Macapagal its certificates of appreciation for meritorious service to the press.

The President received standing ovations.

**October 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today went to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on the second leg of his 12-day state visit to the United States. He had completed his two-day visit to Washington where he conferred twice with US President Johnson.

At the Pittsburgh International Airport, the President and Mrs. Macapagal were greeted by Mayor Joseph Barr of the city. He also received the honorary degree of doctor of civil laws at a special convocation at the University of Pittsburgh.

After receiving the honorary degree, President Macapagal and the First Lady were honored at a luncheon given by Dr. Edward M. Litchfield, chancellor, at his residence.

After a brief rest the President toured the Hones and Laughlin Steel Mill where, he said, he would draw inspiration in connection with the projected establishment of the Iligan Steel Mill in the Philippines.

In the evening President and Mrs. Macapagal capped their first day's stay in the industrial city of Pittsburgh with a reception and dinner at the Duquesne Club, given by the Koppers, Incorporated, and Blaw Knox, Incorporated.

**October 9.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal landed at the Marine Air Terminal of the La Guardia Airport in New York City to start a scheduled three-day stay visit to that bustling city.

Upon his arrival the President and Mrs. Macapagal headed a motorcade along Broadway where he was showered with ticker tape. The parade ended at New York City at the City Hall, where Mayor Robert F. Wagner officially greeted the President and the First Lady.

After an eyexchange of pleasantries, the Philippine President motored to the United Nations headquarters where he called on Secretary General U Thant.

In his meeting with the UN Secretary General, the President said the Philippines was seeking leaders who will help dampen the flames of conflict by imaginative and unflinching use of peaceful means to settle their disputes.

The UN Secretary General then tendered a luncheon at the UN building for his guests. President Macapagal paid tribute to U Thant as "one of Asia's most illustrious sons," who has brought dedication, quiet wisdom, and diplomatic skill to the UN quest for peace."

President and Mrs. Macapagal also toured the World Fair where they visited the Philippine Pavilion.

At the N.Y. city hall the President and Mayor Wagner gave the President a paperweight made of bronze and the seal of New York enclosed in glass.

**October 10.**—THE President today received his second honorary law doctorate degree, this time from the Fordham University in New York City. He first got his honorary doctorate from Pittsburgh.

The honorary title was presented to the Philippine President at a special convocation of the institution and was conferred upon him by Rev. Vincent T. O'Keefe, S.J., president of the Fordham University.

The citation accompanying the degree said that President Macapagal "now stands forth the ruler of his nation whose reputation has reached the whole world."

After the ceremony the President returned to his suite at the swanky Waldorf-Astoria where he tendered a luncheon for publishers of New York City. Mrs. Macapagal, on the other hand, was guest of Mr. George Moore at a luncheon at the Colony Club.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



## **President's Week in Review: October 11-17, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**October 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrived today in Los Angeles, California, on board President Johnson's private jet transport on a non-stop flight from New York.

The President, together with the First Lady, daughter Gloria, and two Cabinet members, was welcomed by Philippine Consul Alejandro F. Holigores, Mayor and Mrs. Samuel W. Yorty, and members of the Los Angeles City council.

As President Macapagal accepted the key to the city from the mayor, the 72nd Army Band from nearby Fort MacArthur played the Philippine National Anthem and then the US Anthem.

The Los Angeles Harbor Commission tendered a luncheon in honor of President and Mrs. Macapagal at the Ports of Call. The luncheon was hosted by George Watson, president of the commission's board.

The luncheon over, the President and his party drove to the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, where he held his first and only press conference.

President Macapagal received from the City of San Pedro a plaque naming him "a most distinguished visitor."

Later, at a reception given by the Los Angeles Filipino community at the Hollywood Palladium, the President delivered a stirring speech which received loud cheers and frequent applause.

In the evening the President and the First Lady were honored at a dinner tendered by the City of Los Angeles and the World Affairs Council of Los Angeles at the Ambassador Hotel.

The presidential party will be in Los Angeles until tomorrow night (Manila time) after the dinner to be tendered by the Council of United Philippine Organization of the New San Francisco Hilton.

**October 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned to San Francisco today and again met US President Johnson, who was campaigning in that city. The US President visited the Philippine Chief Executive at the latter's suite at the Fairmont Hotel.

The meeting was held behind closed doors and it was believed that the two Presidents, who are both seeking reelection, exchanged notes on their efforts to win. Reports reaching Manila said that newsmen were barred from the conference, but photographers were allowed to take pictures of the two Presidents.

After the conference, reports circulated that President Johnson would also visit the Philippines next year if he wins his bid for a second term in the White House.

"I'm going to the Philippines next year, and probably Gov. Edmund G. Brown (California) will go with me," President Johnson said.

Then the US President kissed Mrs. Macapagal on the cheek and comforted her saying, "Don't worry about your daughter, Gloria,"

Miss Macapagal is at present with the President's party and will stay behind to continue her studies at the Georgetown University in Washington. President Johnson also introduced Gov. Brown and San Francisco Mayor John F. Shelley.

**October 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal ended today his two-day stay in San Francisco and his tour of the United States mainland on a note of political optimism.

In a talk with newsmen the President predicted his reelection next year, obviously infected by the exuberance of US President Johnson, who had also expressed belief in his victory in next month's election in the US.

His tour to the US had given him added hopes of victory, considering the tons of rice which America would sell the Philippines to help boost the Administration's candidates in the coming elections.

President Johnson had also pledged to visit the Philippines in an exchange of political courtesies aimed at aiding each other in their reelection bids.

In the press conference wherein he showed optimism in his reelection, President Macapagal belittled the growing sense of nationalism in the country sparked by the recent demonstrations of labor unionists and students who almost wrecked some portions of Malacañang.

**October 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal landed at Honolulu at 5:13 a.m. today (Manila time), and was reported to have been given a festive aloha, including the presentation of colorful flower leis and a 21-gun salute.

Reports reaching Manila said that a 13-man honor guard of the US Navy, Marines, Army, and Air Force men snapped to attention as President Macapagal appeared at the doorway of his special US Air Force jet plane at the Honolulu International Airport. With him was the First Lady. They are on their way home to Manila.

Flags, including those of the Philippines', the United States, and Hawaii, fluttered, adding pomp and pageantry to the President's arrival. The President was officially greeted by Hawaii Gov. John A. Burns and Admiral Thomas H. Moore, commander-in-chief of the US Pacific Fleet.

President and Mrs. Macapagal stayed at the Kahala Hilton, where they were billeted while in Honolulu. They were the luncheon guests of Gov. and Mrs. Burns at the hotel.

In the afternoon the President laid a wreath at the Pacific War Memorial Cemetery in honor of the war dead.

In the evening the President and the First Lady were honored by the members of the Philippine community with a dinner at the Hawaiian Village Dome.

**October 15.**—ON the last day of his stay in US territory, in scenic Honolulu, President Macapagal had a press conference at his Kahala Hilton Hotel suite, during which he belied anew reports of a spiralling anti-American sentiment here in the Philippines. Reports said that the President appeared wearied by the fast-paced schedule he had followed during his last 12 days.

He cancelled a scheduled military briefing at Camp H. M. Smith, headquarters of the commander-in-chief of the US Pacific Forces. Instead, several officers from Camp Smith went to the President's hotel suite to brief him on the military situation in the Far East.

President Macapagal, however, went sightseeing around Oahu. This included stops at the Sea Lie Park, the scenic Pall Lookout, and a ride through windswept Oahu.

President Macapagal this evening ended his 12-day state to the United States which has stirred conflicting views on its success.

The President and the First Lady were scheduled to take off from the Honolulu International Airport at 10:30 p.m. today (Manila time) aboard a Philippine Air Lines *Sampaguita* jetliner for the last lap of their return journey.

The President was reported enthused by the reports on his trip. Malacañang this evening claimed that the President's state visit to America was "fruitful." President Macapagal himself had assessed it as "more rewarding than expected."

**October 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was accorded a warm and spontaneous welcome upon his arrival this morning from a successful and fruitful slate visit to the United States. A festive air pervaded the Manila International Airport where welcome ceremonies befitting a successful state visit were held as well as along the route of the presidential motorcade to Malacañang.

The President and the First Lady, together with the members of their entourage which included three Cabinet members, landed at the MIA at 8:56 a.m. on board the Philippine Air Lines jetliner *Sampaguita*. Moments after the country's flag carrier taxied at the ceremonial area, Justice Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, who acted as government caretaker during the President's absence; and Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, chairman of the national committee on state visits, went up the plane's ramp to fetch the President.

The President and the First Lady emerged from the plane smiling and waving to their enthusiastic welcomers who let loose continued applause as they went down the plane. Placards and streamers welcoming the First Couple and congratulating the President for his fruitful state visit were aplenty. Among the welcomers were Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, members of Congress and the diplomatic corps, labor and veterans groups, provincial and city officials and their respective delegations, employees, and students.

Upon setting foot on the ground, the President and the First Lady were presented with *Sampaguita* garlands by Mrs. Cornelio T. Villareal. Among the first ones to greet them were their children, Mrs. Cielo Salgado and Diosdado. Jr., and the President's mother-in-law, Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg.

The traditional military honors and the 21-gun salute were accorded the President by a composite battalion of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. After inspecting the troops while on board an open jeep with Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., and Brig. Gen. Francisco Licuanan, the President went down to shake hands with his welcomers in acknowledgement of their greetings. All the while, a big group of Centro Escolar University students, accompanied by the AFP band, sang a native song of welcome.

The President then proceeded to the flag-festooned platform from where he addressed the nation on the far-reaching achievements of his trip to the U.S.

Following the airport ceremonies which lasted for 45 minutes, the President and the First Lady led a long motorcade to Malacañang by way of Quirino Avenue in Parañaque, Roxas Boulevard, Vito Cruz, Taft Avenue, General Solano Street, and Jose P. Laurel, Sr. Street.

People from all walks of life, including students and flag-waving schoolchildren, lined the presidential route and cheered the President and the First Lady with shouts of "Mabuhay" as they slowly passed by in an open black limousine. Brass bands played and fireworks burst as the First Couple made their way through flag-draped and arch-dotted route to the Palace. At the foot of Ayala bridge, a cavalry escort of the AFP led the way to the Malacañang compound which was also filled with welcomers who elbowed one another to shake hands with the President.

At the Palace the President received Secretaries Marino, Peralta, Roces, and Sinsuat, and Presidential Assistant Pete S. de Jesus, with whom he had informal conversations on his state visit.

The President took a well deserved rest the rest of the day.

**October 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met members of his Cabinet at luncheon in Malacañang to start the machinery for the immediate implementation of the various accords reached in Washington with U.S. President Johnson.

The President had just returned from what he called the most “successful and fruitful visit I have made in my entire public career to a foreign country.”

In the course of his meeting with the members of his Cabinet, the President created technical committees to make preliminary studies of the various agreements embodied in his joint communique with President Johnson.

The Cabinet also passed a resolution sponsored by Auditor General Pedro M. Gimenez commending the Chief Executive on the success of his 12-day state visit.

Significantly, it was Auditor General Gimenez, who had accused the Administration of allowing too many junkets which he said had tended to discourage the people from the payment of their taxes.

While attending the Cabinet meeting, Chairman Hilarion Henares, Jr., suddenly was stricken ill. The President suspended the Cabinet meeting and made arrangements for the NEC chairman be taken to a nearby hospital.

Dr. Francisco Tangco, the President’s physician, said that Henares was suffering from an inflamed appendix.

In the afternoon the President went over pending stale papers which had piled up during his absence.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **Official Week in Review: October 18 – October 24, 1964**

**October 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal busied himself today with official papers while en route to Tacloban City, where he will address a convention of provincial and municipal officials and inaugurate a concrete road tomorrow. Aside from occasional brief meetings with Malacañang newsmen aboard, the President spent most of his time in his cabin working on state papers.

The Chief Executive boarded the *RPS 21* at 7:20 a.m. at the Philippine Navy landing on Roxas Boulevard for a two-day trip to Leyte where he will also lead in the celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of the late General of the Army Douglas MacArthur and the American liberation forces at Red Beach in Palo in 1944. He was seen off at the pier by the First Lady and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irena Vda. de Macaraeg.

Upon boarding the ship, the President spent some time exchanging impressions with newsmen on a variety of subjects. The President then repaired to his cabin and started working on state papers. He spent part of the afternoon going over the draft of his speech for the Leyte landing ceremonies.

Early in the evening the Chief Executive heard mass said before an improvised altar on the ship's upper deck.

The Presidential party is scheduled to land in Tacloban City tomorrow morning.

**October 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was warmly received by the people of Leyte on his arrival there shortly after noon today. Despite intermittent rains, a big crowd led by Gov. Norberto Romualdez and Tacloban Mayor Artemio Mate turned up at the local wharf as the *RPS 21* bearing the Chief Executive docked at 12:20 p.m. after a 27-hour voyage from Manila. Also at the wharf was the First Lady, who had come in by plane this morning to participate in a two-day round of activities prepared for the First Couple in this city and nearby municipalities.

The President today held a series of conferences with provincial and municipal officials with some 800 barrio captains at the Leyte High School building.

The Chief Executive also addressed a mammoth rally at nearby Palo town and a large gathering of veterans, teachers, and students at the local athletic field. In his speeches the President decried the lack of cooperation of opposition senators which, he said, hampered the development of the country. He said even the United States recognizes the economic gains achieved by this country during the past two years. But he added more could have been accomplished if the opposition had placed public welfare above their local interest.

Mrs. Macapagal, meanwhile, officiated in the opening of NACIDA exhibits, inaugurated a children's playground, and switched on the lights in the newly renovated capitol building. The President and the First Lady will also participate in tomorrow's ceremonies in observance of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of the American forces of liberation in historic Red Beach.

This afternoon Mrs. Macapagal cut the ceremonial ribbon marking the start of a cement road construction project in nearby Sta. Fe. She was assisted by the President who was prevailed upon to address the huge crowd gathered to witness the ceremony.

In the evening of the Chief Executive inducted newly-elected officers of the local Jaycees at a dinner-reception at the Leyte Normal Student Center in Tacloban City. The President and the First Lady spent the night at the residence of Gov. Romualdez.

**October 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal decried today efforts of the opposition to belittle a commitment of U.S. President Johnson that an attack against the Philippines would be considered an attack against the United States and would instantly be repelled. This U.S. commitment was contained in a joint communiqué issued by the two Presidents at the conclusion of President Macapagal's recent State Visit to the United States.

In adopting this attitude, the Chief Executive point out, the opposition is committing an injustice against the United States and her President, as well as a disservice to the Filipino people and the country's security.

The Chief Executive headed guests that converged in Leyte island province to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of the American Forces of Liberation led by the late General of the Army Douglas MacArthur on the beach of Palo, Leyte.

In speeches before huge crowds after the reenactment of the Leyte landing in Palo town this morning and during the commemorative program held at the capitol building of this province, the President said the Johnson commitment was the first clear-cut and positive and unequivocal statement on the matter ever made by an American President.

It is true, he said, that a statement of similar tenor was jointly issued by former Presidents Garcia and Eisenhower. The Chief Executive, however, stressed that the statement was couched in vague terms and was interpreted to mean that the American commitment to defend the Philippines was premised on an armed attack against American forces stationed in the Philippines.

Notwithstanding partisan opinion, he said, President Johnson's commitment will strengthen the Philippine position in the region.

"Our chances for enjoying a durable and lasting peace are considerably enhanced because any potential aggressor will now think twice before encroaching upon Philippine territory, knowing that any attack on us will send the mighty American juggernaut rushing to our assistance," the President said.

Recalling the fulfilled promise of General MacArthur that "I shall return," the Chief Executive said no one should doubt that the United States will faithfully adhere to its pledge. He said, that if the MacArthur pledge were given the blessings of the American Government, there should be no doubt that the pledge made by no less than the President of the United States will likewise be honored.

The Chief Executive emphasized that the United States is a valuable friend in the preservation of freedom and that realism should prevail over national vanity in accepting the truth that America should be valued as a friend at this time when the newly independent nations in Asia are being threatened by enemies of freedom.

He said, Leyte will always stand as a symbol of the genuine friendship the U.S. has for the Philippines, because it was there that the liberation of the country begun and where thousands of American soldiers died so that the Filipinos may continue to live in freedom.

Highlights of today's observance were a mock landing in American Forces at "Red Beach" in Palo, participated in by some 600 U.S. marines, followed by a program shortly before noon and another commemorative program at the capitol building terrace in the afternoon.

Earlier this morning, the President and the First Lady, made floral offerings at the Tomb of the Unknown American Soldiers while Rear Admiral Jack P. Monroe laid flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Filipino soldiers.

About 10,000 people witnessed the "Red Beach" ceremonies.

The commemorative program at capitol building was well attended despite a continuous drizzle. However, the unveiling of a mural was called off owing to the weather.

Meanwhile, the First Lady was special guest at a testimonial banquet in honor of Admiral Monroe tendered by the province. During the luncheon program the First Lady presented a check for P500 as her personal contribution to the construction of a Liberation Memorial Park. The check was received by former Finance Secretary Pio Pedrosa, who is the chairman of the finance committee.

**October 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent most of the day on board the navy ship *RPS 21*, working on pending state papers while on his back to Manila from Leyte. The Chief Executive left Manila last Sunday for that island province where he led ranking Philippine American officials in commemorating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of American liberation forces in Palo town of that province. The President and party left Tacloban City at 5 p.m. yesterday on board the PN ship, skippered by Lt. Commander Cecilio Yutadco.

Upon learning the death of the U.S. President Herbert Hoover, the Chief Executive dictated a message of condolence which was dispatched to Ambassador Oscar Ledesma in Washington for transmittal to the Hoover family. The President also sent a message to Anthony Villanueva, Filipino featherweight, whom he congratulated for winning so far a bronze silver medal for the Philippines.

Despite bad weather from the time of their departure from Tacloban, sailing was comparatively smooth.

Towards noon the President had a brief luncheon conference with Malacañang newsmen who accompanied him in the trip. The President alerted government relief agencies after having been briefed on the approaching typhoon, by Commander Manuel Mandapat, Malacañang naval aide.

Earlier the Chief Executive went over the morning prayers airdropped at shipside by a PAF plane while this ship was in the vicinity of Masbate province.

The President was scheduled to arrive in Manila 7 a.m. tomorrow in time for his scheduled meeting with Speaker Cornelio Villareal.

**October 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal conferred today with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal on a number of subjects, including a feasibility of holding a special session of Congress for the exclusive purpose of enacting badly needed economic measures. The meeting between the President and the Speaker was held shortly upon the return of the Chief Executive this morning from a two-day trip to Leyte, where he was guest of honor and speaker at the commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of American liberation forces led by the late General Douglas MacArthur in Palo, on October 20, 1944. The conference lasted from 9:45 to 11:35 a.m. at the President's private study.

President Macapagal was back in Manila at 7 o'clock this morning after sailing for one day and two nights aboard *RPS 21* from Tacloban City. He was met at the PN landing on Roxas Boulevard by the First Lady and Defense Secretary Macario Peralta Jr.

On his way to Malacañang the President dropped by the Country Bake Shop in United Nations Avenue, where he had breakfast with Secretary Peralta and other patrons of the place.

During the breakfast the President became a member of the Manila Bay Breakfast Club when Chief Eulogio Samio of the Manila Fire Department, club president, pinned the club's symbol on the President's collar.

Early costumers of the shop were happily surprised when the President unexpectedly joined them at the breakfast table.

In the afternoon the President received Brig. Gen. Salipada K. Pendatun and Col. Lucas Paredes, who reported him on their recent observation trips to Southeast Asia, particularly South Vietnam. Also received by the President were Bulacan Gov. Jose Villarama and Sen. Francisco Rodrigo, UP President Carlos P. Romulo, Rep. Jovito Salonga of Rizal, and Rep. Luis Lopez of Batangas.

Gov. Villarama and Sen. Rodrigo discussed with the President the explosive controversy between fishermen and fishpond owners in several barrios of Bulacan.

Romulo called to say goodbye prior to enplaning tomorrow for Washington where he will sign for the State University a loan agreement in the amount of \$6 million with the World Bank.

Rep. Salonga, on the other hand, took up with the Chief Executive the projected talks on the Philippine claimed to North Borneo. The Rizal solon also accompanied to the President, Eduardo Escobar and H.R. Lopez, president and vice-president, respectively of the Filipinas Cement Corporation; and Oscar Arellano of Operations Brotherhood.

Escobar and Lopez invited the President and the First Lady to the scheduled inauguration of their cement company on December 11.

Arellano called to inform the President that he is leaving on Saturday to supervise the work of OB workers in Laos.

Other presidential callers included Monetary Board Member Ernesto Santos, and Chairman Marciano Dizon, and Director Jesus Lazatin of the Philippine Sugar Institute who sought the designation of Ambassadors Marcial P. Lichauco and Oscar Ledesma as co-chairman of the Philippine delegation to the International Sugar Council meeting which starts on November 2 in London.

**October 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spent almost the whole day today attending to a record-breaking crowd of “Common Man’s Day” callers.

A total of 7,645 persons, including 30 delegations, trooped to Malacañang from 8:30 a.m. to 5:20 p.m., to see the President on their individual problems.

Assisting the President in attending to his thousands of callers, the biggest turn-out so far, were the First Lady, and the regular “Common Man Day” staff headed by Acting Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio. Also assisting was Mrs. Salvador L. Mariño.

It was a back-breaking day for the President who took time out only once for a hurried lunch, upon realizing that he had received only about one-half of his callers at noontime.

In the evening the President administered the oath to Vice-Gov. Antonio P. Villar, as acting governor of Pangasinan, during the absence of Gov. Francisco Q. Duque, who is visiting Taipei on the invitation of the Nationalist Chinese Government. Among those present at the induction were Gov. Duque, Pangasinan Board Members Antonio de Guzman, Pedro Caboay, Hugo Sansono, and *Manila Times* Publisher Joaquin R. Roces.

**October 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal led the nation today in celebrating the 19th anniversary of the United Nations. He was guest honor and speaker at the reception given by the United Nations Association of the Philippines this evening at the GSIS auditorium which climaxed a series of programs dedicated to the world organization. With the President in attending the reception was the First Lady.

In his speech the President paid tribute to the UN for its ability to resolve differences among its members and for its role in furthering the progress and advancement of member countries through its agencies.

The President did not receive callers in the morning and in the afternoon. He spent the day working on state papers and preparing his speech for the UN program.

**Source: Supreme Court Library**

Macapagal, D. (1964). Official Month in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 60(43), ccclxix-ccclxxii.



## **Official Week in Review: October 25 – October 31, 1964**

**October 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was guest of honor and speaker today of the Reserve Officers Legion of the Philippines at the PC Officers Clubhouse in Camp Crame. It was the second day of the ROLP 25th annual convention.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, was fetched from Malacañang by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., who was also introduced him to the convention delegates.

During the ceremonies the ROLP presented the President a plaque of appreciation “for outstanding service to the rank and file of citizen army, as particularly demonstrated by the increase of pay and allowances of the officers and men of the AFP.

After breakfast this morning the President read the Sunday newspapers. Later he went over his speech to be delivered before the ROLP convention.

The President arrived at the Camp Crame at high noon and from there returned to Malacañang arriving at the Palace 2:30 p.m.

He heard mass at the Palace chapel in the evening and on the occasion of *Christ the King*.

**October 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received Mayor Antonio J. Villegas who took up with him broad program of highway development in greater Manila area. Also taken up by the President and the Manila mayor was a proposal of the Mandaluyong Chamber of Commerce and Industries to widen the Epifanio delos Santos Avenue and Guadalupe bridge.

The President told Villegas to meet with Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad and to explore the feasibility of floating socio-economic development bonds to finance highways essential to the solution of the traffic problems in the city.

This morning the President received Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo and Philippine Ambassador to Tokyo, Jacinto Borja.

Castillo reported on the present monetary conditions in the country as he saw it. He told the President that conditions are not so bad as some believe.

Borja, on the other hand, saw the Chief executive on the latter’s long-awaited visit to Bohol. While they discussed matters concerning the proposed trip of the President to his province, no date has been set for such a visit.

Earlier this afternoon the President received American Ambassador William McCormick Blair, Jr., who paid him a courtesy call.

The American envoy arrived last night from the United States where he helped prepare the President’s recent state visit to the American mainland.

**October 27.**—THIS morning the President received 20 provincial governors, five city mayors, and a number of municipal officials who took up with him matters concerning their respective regions. Among the matters discussed were socio-economic projects; such as, irrigation systems, roads, and school buildings, and local appointments.

Typical examples are those of Gov. Wenceslao Vinzons, Jr., of Camarines Norte; and Mayors Zacario A. Aiczon of San Pablo City, Mario L. Tagarao of Lucena City, and Isaac O. Tolentino of Tagaytay City.

Gov. Vinzons sought the early release of P1 million for the construction of that portion of the Manila South Road in his province. Mayor Ticzon requested the release of P25, 000 for the construction of school buildings in his city. He also proposed the appointment of a successor to City Attorney David Carreon, who is due to retirement early next year.

Mayor Tagarao asked for the construction for the Lucena-Cuta road and several barrio roads, estimated to cost P35, 000.

Mayor Tolentino proposed the acquisition for a loan of P3 million from the Development Bank of the Philippines for a cable car over Taal Volcano in line with national effort to develop tourist spots.

In the course of his meeting with the local officials, the President swore in Benito E. Galido, as Mayor of Sebaste, Antique. Present during the induction rite were the inductee's wife, Melecia, PVA Administrator Alberto Villavert, and Provincial Board Member Quirino M. Escano.

During the day the President issued separate directives concerning the employment of Filipinos in California, the prevention of a diphtheria outbreak in the greater Manila area, and effective garbage disposal in the city.

President Macapagal met this afternoon with the non-partisan Foreign Affairs Consultative Group on the latest developments on the Philippine claim to Sabah (North Borneo).

Present at the conference which lasted from 13:35 to 3 p.m. were Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez; Sens. Juan R. Liwag, Lorenzo Tanada, and Francisco Rodrigo; Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun; Reps. Jovito Salonga of Rizal, Juan Trivino of Camarines Sur, Felicisimo Ocampo of Nueva Ecija, Ramon D. Bagatsing of Manila, Angel Fernandez of Pangasinan, Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao del Norte, and Godofredo Ramos of Aklan; Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Librado D. Cayco, Ambassador Tomas Benitez, Minister Benito Bautista, and Acting Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes.

President Macapagal presided over a two-and-half hour conference at Malacañang this evening among heads of the country's revenue collecting agencies.

During the meeting, steps were formulated for a concerted effort among the Office of the President, the Secretary of Finance, and the Commissioner of Customs, to increase customs collection and to increase internal revenue measures. In order to set up the drive against venalities, the Commissioner of Customs and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue have enlisted the collaboration of PAGCOM Chief Cesar Climaco in the drive against venalities in their respective bureaus, which drive will be under the over-all supervision of Justice Secretary Salvador L. Mariño, who has created a special anti-graft team of prosecutors.

Present during the meeting were Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, Justice Secretary Marino, Customs Commissioner Benjamin Tabios, and PAGCOM Chief Cesar Climaco.

**October 28.**—THIS morning the President met with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal on the composition of the Philippine delegation to the United Nations General Assembly which will open soon.

Later he received 31 members of the House of Representatives who took up with him problems of their respective districts, particularly urgent public works projects.

In the course of his conferences with the Congressmen, the President handed over to PVTA Chairman-General Manager Jose Abalos a check for P1.5 million for the purchase of native tobacco produce under the tobacco subsidy law.

Rep. Benjamin Ligot and other solons of the tobacco-producing regions hailed the release of the amount which, they said, will benefit all tobacco farmers throughout the country.

The President also swore in the morning Petra C. Nobleza, as mayor of the newly created municipality of Badiangan, Iloilo. Among those who witnessed the induction rite were Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal and Rep. Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo.

President Macapagal this afternoon received the board of officers of the Philippine Chamber of Industries (PCI) who asked him to call Congress to a special session for the enactment of economic measures. The PCI's petition, embodied in a letter handed to the Chief Executive was a reiteration of an earlier request made through a telegram.

Headed by PCI President Antonio Delgado, the others in the PCI group who saw the President were board members Jesus T. Tanchanco, Federico Borromeo, Gaudencio Mañalac, Alejandro Lichauco, former Ambassador Emilio Abello, and Froilan Bacungan, and board secretary, Rodolfo Balingit.

Earlier this afternoon the Chief Executive met the Philippine Paralympic basketball team. This is composed of paraplegics who play basketball while strapped to wheelchairs. It will be the first to represent the Philippines in paraplegic sports abroad.

The President also met with the board of directors of the NACIDA Bank who asked that its P20 million government capitalization be released to start operation of the Bank. The Chief Executive assured the NACIDA Bank officials that the bank is one of the priority projects of the Administration and that their request would be taken up in the next meeting of the fiscal group.

Officials of the bank who saw the President were Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda, board chairman; Bank President Teofilo Reyes, Sr., Rep Luciano Joson of Mindoro, who authored the NACIDA Bank bill; directors Mario de la Cruz, Cesar Arnaldo, Conrado Morente, and Bienvenido Cabrera; corporate counsel Manuel Gatbonton, and Board Secretary Arellano Gonzales.

Late in the afternoon the President presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

**October 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received only a few callers today to be able to attend to important matters of state. He spent most of his time in his private study where he worked at official papers needing his immediate attention.

The only callers received by the Chief Executive were Sen. Estanislao Fernandez and SSS Administrator Bernardino Abes.

Sen. Fernandez reported on his trip abroad during which he attended the Inter-Parliamentary Union conference in Copenhagen and conducted studies on the Philippine claim to North Borneo at the Hague. The Senator also discussed with the President the proposal for another special session and the measures that might be taken up.

Abes reported on the lodging projects being undertaken by the SSS for employees of private firms with salaries ranging from P1, 800 to P3, 600 a year.

The housing projects, Abes said, are in consonance with the Administration's program of providing low-cost housing to the people.

Late in the afternoon the President met with newsmen covering the Palace.

The President after his press conference, received Speaker protempore Salipada Pendatun, Rep. Godofredo Ramos, and Presidential Assistant on Housing Pete S. De Jesus.

Before presiding on his press conference, the President conferred with acting Executive Secretary Salvador L. Marino and Secretary of Finance Rufino G. Hechanova.

**October 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today took up with his Cabinet the fiscal position of the government in the light of many essential services which had been authorized by Congress. Also taken up by the Cabinet were the government policy of not entering into commercial or industrial ventures that are in competition with private enterprises, the 1965 Muslim pilgrimage, and the sending of the Philippine trade mission to Australia.

This morning, the President was keynote speaker at the opening rites of the Eastern Regional Committee meeting of the International Union Against Tuberculosis (IUAT) held at the Philamlife Auditorium on United Nation Avenue.

In his speech, the President cautioned against any complacency in the fight against tuberculosis because in countries where it seemed to be under control, there are signs of its resurgence.

With the President attending the IUAT opening ceremonies was the First Lady. They were fetched from Malacañang by Health Secretary Rodolfo Caños.

Represented in the regional conference which will last up to November 2 are Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Hongkong, India, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Sikkim, South Korea, Thailand, and the Philippines.

Earlier this afternoon the President motored to the residence of Mrs. Raymunda Guidote

Abila, on 525 Altura St., Sta. Mesa, whom he presented with the Philippine Legion of Honor award (degree of officer) for “exceptionally outstanding services to the Filipino people during the Japanese occupation.”

Earlier this evening the President and the First Lady entertained delegates to the regional meeting at cocktails in Malacañang.

**October 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met at breakfast today with Administration leaders in the Senate on the special session plan. After the breakfast which lasted for one and a half hours, the President worked on speeches he has to deliver later in that day.

The President was guest speaker in the afternoon during the turn-over ceremonies of the newly-constructed sanctum and rotunda of the National Heroes Cemetery (*Libingan ng mga Bayani*) in Fort Bonifacio, Rizal.

In his speech, The President paid tribute to the memories of “our heroic countrymen who laid down their lives so that we – and the ideals they believed in – might live.”

The First Lady turned over the beautiful shrine to the Philippine Army in her capacity as chairman of the National Parks Development Committee.

The First couple arrived at the cemetery shortly before 4 p.m., with Mrs. Macapagal opening the afternoon rites by lighting the eternal flame held by two brass urns flanking the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Shortly thereafter, the President and the First Lady laid flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier while a bugler sounded taps.

In the evening the President was guest of honor at the 28th anniversary celebration of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines held at Quezon Memorial Circle in Quezon City.

Attended by some 2, 000 boy scouts from Manila and nearby cities and provinces, the occasion featured a special national court of honor following a torch parade.

During the program, President Macapagal, honorary head and spiritual leader of the local scouting movement, was decorated with the Silver Tamaraw, the highest BSP award. The award was presented to the Chief Executive by Gabriel A. Daza, BSP president and chief scout.

*Source:* **Supreme Court Library**

Office of the President of the Philippines (1964). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 60 (44), ccclxxv-ccclxxviii.

## **President's Week in Review: November 1-7, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**November 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today made his annual pilgrimage to his hometown in Lubao, Pampanga, to pay homage to the memory of his departed parents on All Saint's Day. The President this morning stayed for some time at the town's cemetery, where he placed wreaths and offered brief prayers at the tombs of his father, Urbano Macapagal who died in 1946, and mother, Romana Pañgan who died in 1941. He also visited the tombs of his paternal grandmother, Escolastica Romero, his brother, Israel, and an uncle, Rufino Macapagal.

At the cemetery, the Chief Executive was met by his sister, Mrs. Lourdes Bautista and a throng of old friends, relatives, and townmates, some of whom were also keeping vigil over the graves of their dead. Mrs. Bautista's husband, Judge Pedro Bautista of Pasay City, was also there.

Mayor Anastacio Bernal and Vice-Mayor Josefo Lingad of Lubao joined the President.

From the cemetery, the President motored to the residence of Fausto Chincuangco, an old friend, in Barrio Sta. Cruz. There, the President met other old friends with whom he reminisced some old memories. He also met with Press Secretary Virgilio Reyes and Malacañang newsmen accompanying him for a press interview.

Lunch was served the President's party by the Chincuangcos. After lunch the President returned to Manila.

Before proceeding to Lubao, this morning the Chief Executive accompanied the First Lady, and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg, to the Pinaglabanan church in San Juan, Rizal.

Mrs. Macapagal laid orchid flowers at the crypt of her father, the late Juan G. Macaraeg who died in 1943, at the basement of the church.

The President also sent a message of condolence to the family of the late Congressman Tobias Fornier of Antique, who died Saturday at the St. Claire's Hospital in New York City.

In the evening the President and the First Lady heard mass at the Malacañang chapel.

**November 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today cracked down on erring government employees by directing the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee (PAGCOM) to see to it that further violations of civil service rules and regulations be stopped.

The directive was issued by the Chief Executive as he once again devoted most of his time to paperwork.

In the course of the day the President administered the oath to Amado Maquiling and Cirilo Angayo as mayor and vice-mayor, respectively, of the newly-created town of Tigao in Surigao del Sur. The new town officials were accompanied to Malacañang by Rep. Vicente Pimentel and Bislig Mayor Añomado Masangkey.

Earlier this morning the President received MDA Chairman Brigido Valencia, who took up with him matters concerning his office.

In the afternoon the President met with Butuan City officials headed by Mayor Salvador Calo and Vice-Mayor Silvestre Osin. Also with the group were city councilors Gabriel Banaag, Filemon Busa, and Ernesto Esguerra; Eulogio Garcia; and Roque Manabat.

Accompanied by Agusan Gov. Jose Aquino, the Butuan officials requested the President for budgetary aid to complete the dike along the Agusan River to prevent floods in the city.

**November 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today flew to Olongapo, Zambales, for a day's visit in Cubi Point, during which he viewed the demonstration of the firing of guided missiles. He left at 8 a.m. aboard the presidential Fokker Friendship plane *The Common Man*. He returned to the Palace shortly after 6 p.m.

He was met upon his return at the Nichols Air Base by the First Lady and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg.

With the President in flying to the American Naval base were General Alfredo Santos, AFP Chief of Staff; Sen. Francisco Rodrigo, Brig. Gen. Victor Dizon, senior presidential aide and presidential adviser on military affairs; Commodore Santiago Nuval, PN Flag Officer; and Commander Manuel Mandapat, presidential naval aide.

Upon arriving in Malacañang early in the evening, the President received Olympian silver medalist Anthony Villanueva and the other members of the boxing team who paid him a courtesy call.

Villanueva was earlier accorded a hero's welcome upon his return this afternoon from Hongkong, where he and the other members of the Philippine boxing delegation had a couple of day's rest on their way back from the Olympiad site in Tokyo.

With Villanueva in calling on the President were his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cely Villanueva; Gene Puyat, President of the Philippine Amateur Boxing Association; PAAF President Antonio de las Alas; boxing promoter Aling Enriquez; and a big group of admirers.

**November 4.**— THIS morning the Chief Executive administered the oath of office to the appointed officials of the newly-created municipality of Gloria in Mindoro Oriental.

Inducted were Nicolas Jamilla, mayor; Valerico Agoncillo, vice-mayor; and Ernesto Miciano, Alfredo Rofule, and Miguel Mabolo, councilors.

The inductees were accompanied to Malacañang by Rep. Luciano A. Joson and Provincial Board Member Fermin Pacia.

President Macapagal heard reports on the much criticized United Fruit Company lease, and on the outlook of revenue collections during the regular weekly Cabinet meeting early this afternoon in Malacañang.

From the Cabinet meeting the President left the Palace to acknowledge the expression of gratitude of veterans, war widows, and orphans who staged an appreciation rally at the Executive Building grounds.

About 5,000 came to Malacañang to thank the President for securing from US President Lyndon B. Johnson during his recent state visit a commitment to discuss anew veterans claims.

At 4:30 p.m. the President left by car for Poro Point, La Union, on the first leg of his three-day tour of Cagayan and Mountain Province.

**November 5.**—IN CLAVERIA, Cagayan, President Macapagal reiterated his appeal for general support in his fight to liberate the masses from bondage and poverty which, he said, had enslaved them for centuries.

In speeches delivered in isolated Northern Luzon localities today, the President said, that without the people's assistance, he would find it difficult to overcome the obstacles placed in his way by men of influence and power in his determination to help "those of our countrymen." He cited some of the projects of the Administration designed to provide better opportunities for the common man, like the socio-economic and the land reform programs. The Chief Executive said, he would find difficulty in pursuing these programs without the people's support.

The President arrived here at 10:30 a.m. today after an overnight voyage from Poro Point, La Union, where he boarded the Philippine Navy ship RPS 21 last night. It was rough sailing all the way with dangerous swells and 10-foot waves from Poro to this town.

A large crowd which jampacked the local wharf met the President upon landing in Barrio Taggat of this town.

Headed by Gov. Teresita Dupaya, Rep. Benjamin Ligot, Mayor Bonifacio Guzman, and other provincial and municipal officials of nearby towns, the crowd had been waiting for the President's arrival since seven o'clock this morning.

After addressing his welcomers at the Taggat Plywood Industries compound, the President proceeded to the town proper where another huge welcome awaited him.

He inaugurated the new sub-port customs office and the P65,000-municipal building.

After addressing the townsfolk gathered in front of the new municipal hall, the President had lunch at the local residence of Alfonso Lim, general manager of the plywood firm.

The President also conferred with local official and addressed public rallies in Sanchez Mira, Ballesteros, and Pamplona. He also inaugurated the PTA experimental station in Sanchez Mira and laid the cornerstone to the projected Pamplona Bridge.

The Chief Executive was welcomed enthusiastically by the people in all the northernmost Luzon towns he visited. He has been to these localities as Vice-President and he thanked the local folk for the overwhelming support they extended to him in the 1961 presidential election.

The President spent the night at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Bienvenido Quirolico in Ballesteros.

Tomorrow, the President will motor deeper inland in Luna, Mt. Province, where he will hold "Common Man's Day."

He will hold another public rally in Barrio Lukban, Abulug, Cagayan, where he will also inaugurate an irrigation system before boarding the navy ship at Linao Point for the return trip to Manila.

**November 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal brought Malacañang into the hinterlands as he held a "Common Man's Day" reception at Apayao, sub-province of Mt. Province.

Crossing over Mt. Province this morning the President spent two and a half hours listening to problems of barefooted farmers, barrio captains, native Apayaos, and Negritos, as well as grade school children.

Problems presented ranged from land disputes, requests for barrio improvements, and fertilizers and medicines.

The Chief Executive informed the people that he had always believed that public officials, including the highest officials in the land, should go out to the people especially the poor in rural areas who could not afford to go to Manila. That way, he said, officials could more effectively learn their problems and see how the government could be of assistance to them.

With a population of 8,000 engaged in farming and logging, Luna is located on the foothill of Mt. Lambunao. It was the first time a head of the nation ever set foot in this town although the President had been in these localities as Vice-President.



Assisted by Luna Mayor Claro Bautista and the “Common Man’s Day” staff, the President received a total number of 2,324 persons from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., including large farmer delegations from practically all the 12 barrios of that municipality.

A group of rural health nurses sought the establishment of a rural health building, while barrio captains asked for the construction of roads, bridges, and schoolhouses.

Arriving at the Mt. Province boundary at 9 a.m., the President was met by a delegation of officials, including Apayao girls dressed in colorful native costumes who offered their leis to the visiting Chief Executive.

At the entrance of Luna town, the President was welcomed with a parade complete with brass bands and with carabao-riding farmers. Inspired by the enthusiastic reception, the President mounted an improvised platform and delivered bareheaded under the rain an unscheduled speech.

After the “Common Man’s Day” reception held at a *sawali* and tin-roof affair which serves as Luna gymnasium, the President motored back to Cagayan province, where he inaugurated an irrigation system in barrio Lucban of this town.

From here the President proceeded to Taggat, Claveria, where he reboarded RPS 21 for the trip back to Manila.

**November 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal brought anew the government to the outlying areas when he made an unexpected visit to this island, some 60 nautical miles from the northern tip of Luzon. The President informed the grateful inhabitants of this isolated island that he had come to look into their needs, adding that they are equally entitled to government attention as those living in any part of the country.

The inhabitants informed the President that many officials, including representatives of the President, had been in this island and promised them many things, but such promises had not been fulfilled. The President told them this is different because it was the President himself who was visiting them.

This poblacion island has a population of 7,000. It has three island barrios namely: Babuyan Claro, Dalupiri, and Camiguin which the President visited last July.

The President told the people of his policy of visiting as many remote localities as possible in order to include their needs in his economic program to help the needy of his countrymen.

Pulling out of Taggat, Claveria, Cagayan, this morning in choppy seas and driving rains, the President aboard RPS 21 ordered the ship to proceed to this poblacion before sailing back to Manila.

Rain and rough seas continued all day and the President landed on this island under the same weather condition.

Returning to the ship at about five o’clock this afternoon, the President brought along with him one of the two priests on this island who had long been ailing but could not go to the mainland for lack of transportation. The priest, Fr. Alejandro Martinez, was brought to Manila for treatment.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: November 8-14, 1964

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**November 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal was scheduled to arrive in Manila early tomorrow morning aboard *RPS 21* from a three-day tour of remote northernmost Luzon towns, where he inaugurated bridges and irrigation systems, and conferred with local officials.

During the tour the President also held "Common Man's Day" in Luna, Apayao, and brought Malacañang in that hitherto unheard of municipality located along the northern boundary of Mountain Province.

It was the first time a head of nation ever set foot in that outlying region although the President had been to those localities as Vice-President.

The President explained to the rural folk, that he had always believed that government officials, including the highest official in the land, should go to the people especially those in out of the way places, who need assistance most. He was enthusiastically received by inhabitants in all places he visited and was presented resolutions unanimously passed by municipal councils endorsing his reelection bid.

In Ballesteros, Cagayan, the President was made an adopted son in a resolution unanimously passed by the municipal council and presented to him at a huge rally held in that town Friday evening.

Owing to the inclement weather, the President was unable to reboard this ship in Tagbat, Claveria, Cagayan, Friday evening for his return trip to Manila as originally scheduled. Because of the changes in his itinerary, his engagements scheduled for yesterday and today had to be cancelled.

Yesterday, he utilized his free time visiting the isolated island municipality of Calayan, some 60 nautical miles north of Luzon.

The President had wanted to be in the city earlier today to be in time to attend the necrological services for Rep. Tobias Forman of Antique. Since he could not make it, he instead wired the First Lady and Acting Executive Secretary Salvador L. Marino, to represent him at the burial services.

The President spent most of his time today in his cabin going over state papers he brought along with him in the trip and resting from a gruelling three-day inspection tour.

He had lunch with Secretary Reyes, Navy Deputy Commander Felix Apolinario, and some newsmen, who accompanied him during the trip.

Unable to stand gentle pitching and rolling of this ship because of the huge swells of the China Sea. other newsmen kept to their cabins and missed their lunch.

At this writing, this ship bearing the President and his party is cruising the coast of Zambales enroute to Manila.

**November 9.**—THIS morning the President conferred with Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal on routine matters. The President also received officials of the United States Federal Aviation Agency who paid him a courtesy call.

Headed by USFAA Director Najeeb E. Halaby, the American aviation officials arrived this morning for a two-day visit during which they will discuss local aviation problems with CAA officials.

This afternoon the President received B. R. Sen, Director General of the Food Agricultural Organization, which is currently holding a three-week regional conference in Manila.

Accompanied to Malacañang by Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, Sen expressed his thanks for the Presidents message to the conferees on the FAO's opening session last Saturday.

In his message read by Foreign Secretary Mauro Mendez, the President said that unless hunger and poverty are eradicated, there will be no peace in Asia.

In the evening the President and the First Lady honored at cocktails in Malacañang, delegates to the Fourth Asian Racing Conference currently being held at the Philamlife auditorium on United Nations Avenue. The delegates number 142 representations from various Asian countries; such as Australia, India, Japan, South Korea, Malaya-Singapore, New Zealand, Thailand, and North Borneo. Observers from the United States are also present in the week-long conference which started November 6 and will wind up on the 15th of this month.

The delegates were accompanied to Malacañang by Philippine Racing Club President A. P. Reyes, who was elected over-all chairman of the conference, Bryan Crawley, first vice-chairman, and P. W. Paterson second vice-chairman also of the conference.

Later the President boarded the Philippine Navy ship *RPS 21* for a tour of southern provinces.

**November 10.**—ABOARD “RPS 21,” President Macapagal today is en route to Bohol province, where he is scheduled to arrive tomorrow morning.

The Chief Executive is accompanied during his trip by Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes, Ambassador Jacinto Bona, and Malacañang newsmen.

Since the President left Manila last night aboard this ship skippered by Cmdr. Cecilio Yutadco, the voyage has been remarkably smooth.

The President spent most of his time today working on official papers.

On the first day of his 13-day trip to Visayan and Mindanao provinces, the President stayed in his cabin and worked uninterruptedly on piles of state papers he brought along in the trip.

Starting early this morning, the Chief Executive worked up to past noon when he went up to the upper deck for lunch with the Malacañang newsmen.

He was back to his paper work after a brief rest, coming out again to the upper deck for supper with newsmen early in the evening.

At 8 p.m., this ship is off the northern tip of Cebu for a right turn to Camotes Sea towards Bohol.

The President is scheduled to land in Tagbilaran tomorrow morning for the start of a two-day visit in Bohol province.

**November 11.**—IN Tagbilaran, Bohol, President Macapagal today rallied the people in this home province of former President Carlos P. Garcia behind the “peaceful revolution” that the Administration is undertaking to liberate the masses of common people from the clutches of age-old poverty.

Overwhelmed by the tumultuous welcome accorded him in all the barrios and towns he visited in Bohol today, the Chief Executive was obliged to deliver speeches before enthusiastic crowds that met him the whole day today, resulting in his itinerary's going haywire.

In his speeches the President lamented the opposition's pattern of obstructionism which, he said, had considerably hampered the social and economic progress of the masses.

Saying that he would never be daunted by the selfish political antics of the opposition, he appealed to all Boholanos to support the Administration so that its "peaceful revolution to liberate the greatest number of our countrymen" could be carried on to a successful conclusion.

The President's visit here is the first since he ran for and assumed the Presidency. The President said he had wanted to visit this province even while still a candidate for President, but could not do so because of his and President Garcia's adherence to a mutual code of gallantry whereby both of them would not campaign in either's bailiwick.

But now that he could visit the province and see for himself its problems, he gave assurance that he would give the maximum the government could give to help the province.

As a matter of fact, he said, he had seen to it that this province was not left out in the implementation of socio-economic projects which he launched today.

Inaugurated by the Chief Executive were: the Bohol Needlecraft Industry under the NACIDA, the Bohol Fisheries Industry under the Fisheries Commission, and the Bohol Poultry and Livestock Service Cooperative, which are all calculated to increase the earning capacity of the people of Bohol.

The warmth and enthusiasm with which the President was received was unreelied by a red carpet welcome accorded him upon his arrival at the local wharf this morning.

**November 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal concluded today his two-days visit to Bohol Province. During his short stay in this home province of former President Garcia, the Chief Executive was recipient of words of encouragement and pledge of support for reelection bid.

Last night Nacionalista Mayor Diosdado Renegado of Cortes town assured President Macapagal that town is for him in 1965. This morning the same assurance was given by Mayor Pablo Bastes of Luboc.

The President resumed his tour this morning with whistle stop in Dauis town which went all out for him and gave Garcia zero in 1961 Election. It was heroes welcome for the President whom they helped elected to high position in the land. The President's *barong Tagalog* crumpled even before, he reached the town proper as screaming men, women, and children elbowing each other to greet him.

After the turning over of papers to Dauis town Mayor on Catties for Towns Cattle Dispersal Program. President Macapagal motored inland to Luboc, Bilar, and Carmen with whistle stop at Baclagon, Alburguerque, Loay, and Batuan. Enthusiastic reception forced the Chief Executive to address unscheduled rallies in these places with major rallies held in Luboc, Bilar, Carmen, and Jagna.

Notwithstanding his late arrival this afternoon, the cheering multitude met the President in Carmen. After addressing the huge crowd at the town market place, the Chief Executive laid the cornerstone of the second Engineering District building in town. The President also inspected the new Provincial Hospital Extension.

Then they had lunch at the residence of Mayor Procopio Trabajo after which the President motored to Jagna for the last major rallies in the province.

In Jagna. huge crowd heard the Chief Executive report of his administration program and Nacionalistas pattern of Obstructionism.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation declaring Monday, November 16 as a special public holiday in Ilocos Sur in commemoration of the birth anniversary of the late President Elpidio Quirino.

Ilocos Sur is the home province of the late President.

In issuing the proclamation, President Macapagal said that the people of Ilocos Sur should be given full opportunity to celebrate the day with fitting ceremonies.

**November 13.**—ABOARD “RPS 21,” President Macapagal expressed confidence today that he would win decisively in Bohol in next year’s presidential election.

The President was gratified over the tremendous reception accorded him everywhere he went during his two-day visit to that province.

As people turned out en masse and formed human roadblocks in towns and barrios, the President gladly alighted from his car to reciprocate their enthusiasm.

Cheers of “*Mabuhay si Presidente Macapagal*,” accompanied by clapping of hands, filled the air which is the Boholano’s way of expressing cordial welcome.

Everyone seemed eager to meet and greet the Chief Executive. In Dauis, where former President Carlos P. Garcia got a zero vote in the 1961 poll in spite of his being a Boholano, an aged woman was a picture of frustration when she failed to break through the jostling crowd to greet the President.

In Candijay, a mother carrying a child at a roadside nearly tripped while whirling around, excitedly shouting “Macapagal, Macapagal,” after shaking the hand of the President who reached out from his passing car.

In spite of the late hour and driving rains, the people of Sierra Bullones patiently awaited for the Chief Executive’s arrival last night. The President showed his gratitude by going down his car and shaking hands with them getting himself drenched to the skin in the process.

At 1 a.m. today, a mammoth crowd still awaited the President in Jagna, and another milling throng in Garcia-Hernandez clamored for the President to say a few words to them. The President gladly obliged and addressed the crowd up to 2:30 a.m.

It was in Garcia-Hernandez, where the President was scheduled to have dinner. Resolutions, unanimously endorsing the President’s reelection and pledging full support were presented by municipal officials of Ubay, Garcia-Hernandez, and Panglao, led by their respective mayors.

What probably heartened the President most were public predictions of his reelection in 1965. He observed in his speeches that “while in other provinces they merely urged me to run for reelection, here in Bohol, they are already predicting my victory.”

The President reboarded this Navy ship at 3:30 a.m. Accompanying the President in his tour of Bohol were Gov. Esteban Bernido, Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, Ambassador Jacinto Borja, and Reparations Commissioner Her-menegildo Atienza.

Waking up late this morning the President spent some time working on official papers.

At 12:30 p.m. he had lunch with Fernandez, Borja, and Atienza who are going with him to Mindanao, and with Malacañang newsmen.

The President took a brief rest after lunch and then continued going over some state papers late in the afternoon.

He is scheduled to land in Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte, tomorrow morning, on the second leg of his current provincial visit.

**November 14.**—IN Iligan City President Macapagal received pledges today that Lanao del Norte will rally behind his reelection bid as provincial and municipal officials of the province assailed the opposition's attacks on the President's provincial trips.

The pledges were given during rallies in the coastal towns of the province during which the President appealed for support to his program of government.

Decrying reports that Nacionalista Party presidential aspirants had asked the President to stay put in Manila, Vice-Gov. Arsenio Quebranza said: "Probably they think that the only significant part of the Philippines is Manila. We in Mindanao are as much a part of the country entitled to Presidential attention and concern."

Among the most vocal of the local officials was Mayor Bernardo Nietes of Kapatagan who said that his town will give the President a landslide as a lesson for the opposition.

The President arrived in the residence here of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg, early this evening after visiting coastal western towns of the province the whole day today, With him were Sen. Estanislao Fernandez and Ambassador Jacinto Borja.

From Tubod, he motored to Baroy, Lala, and Kapatagan, turning back to Kolambugan, Maigo, Bacolod, Kauswagan, and Linamon. In all these towns, the President was accorded warm receptions with the people rushing to meet him and his path strewn with flowers. The President had to make repeated pauses as people broke into applause everytime he riled the opposition for their concerted efforts to frustrate his program for the common people.

In Kauswagan, the President was joined by the First Lady, who arrived earlier today.

At Mrs. Macaraeg's house the President received city and provincial delegations which consulted him on local problems. Then he had a dinner conference with Liberal Party leaders at the residence of Gov. Ali Dimaporo.

The President spent the night at the home of his mother-in-law. He was scheduled to visit Surigao tomorrow.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: November 15-21, 1964

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**November 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal charged today that the chances are the “black propaganda” against some Nacionalista presidential aspirants is the work of NP propagandists.

The NP's, the President said, started black propaganda in 1959 and in 1961, and since they are addicted to this, the black propaganda being circulated against some opposition presidential aspirants could be the work of their own propagandists.

Mr. Macapagal added that the use of black propaganda is not healthy in our democracy and should be stopped.

The President made the statement to newsmen shortly before arriving Surigao del Norte, this afternoon from Tandag, Surigao del Sur, where he conferred with national and provincial officials headed by Gov. Adela Serra Tv. He also inaugurated the Tandag Airport after which he addressed a rally.

Early this morning the President also inaugurated the airport in Siargao Island and officiated in the ground breaking ceremony of the Dapa Waterworks.

The President boarded the RPS 21 this evening at this port bound for Palawan which will be reached by this Navy ship on Wednesday.

**November 16.**—ABOARD RPS 21 President Macapagal embarked today on a cultural trip to Cagayan de Sulu and other places in Palawan to give impetus to the conservation of natural resources and cultural heritage of the Filipinos as a people.

The President reboarded the Navy ship last night in Surigao del Norte, which he visited yesterday together with Surigao del Sur, where he inaugurated various socio-economic projects.

The Chief Executive is scheduled to land in Cagayan de Sulu tomorrow morning.

Lying almost at the same latitude as the northern most tip of North Borneo and about 70 square kilometers in area, the island has the least known of cultural minority groups—the *Jama Mapun*—whose way of life and social structure is now the subject of studies by the National Museum.

In Palawan the President will visit the Tabon Caves, the Underground River, and also the inhabitants of isolated places of the province.

It is the feeling that while the country is absorbed in socio-economic progress of contemporary society, attention should also be focused to the preservation of the natural resources and cultural heritage of the past.

The Tabon Cave of Palawan is the habitat of the oldest man in the Philippines—the *Tabon Man*—who lived in the area some 22,000 years ago.

While en route to Cagayan de Sulu and to Palawan the President spent the day resting and working on state papers in his cabin. Before bucking down to work on pending state papers this morning, the Chief Executive pored over the day's newspapers dropped at sea by a PN seaplane.

The President's voyage appears to be remarkably smooth with this ship skippered by Lt. Commander Cecilio Yutadco negotiating the placid waters of the Sulu Sea the whole day today.

**November 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal shifted his attention today to the cultural aspect of Philippine life by visiting cultural minorities in Cagayan de Sulu, an extremely isolated island in the Sulu Sea, among them the Jama Mapun tribe, least known in the archipelago.

Numbering only about one thousand, the Jama Mapun group is supposed to be the aborigines of this forlorn island which lies only about 120 kilometers

Other inhabitants are the Tausog, the Samals. Badaos, and a handful of Christian settlers. There are also some foreign missionaries, who run the Notre Dame of Cagayan de Sulu.

The island itself is about 70 square kilometers, flat with sharp volcanic formations here and there.

National Museum Director Galo B. Ocampo, who is accompanying the President in the trip said that preliminary studies of the Jama Mapun tribe had been undertaken in collaboration with SEATO experts in order to learn the culture of the least known tribe and some other aspect of Philippine cultural history, aside from collecting significant cultural materials from all the Muslim groups.

Earlier today the President approved the conferment upon Dr. Robert Fox, discoverer of the Tabon Man, of the RIZAL PRO PATRIA AWARD for his contribution to Philippine cultural history.

The *Pleistocene Skull of Man* in the Tabon Caves in Palawan which the President is scheduled to visit Thursday has extended the frontiers of Philippine knowledge on pre-history by 20,000 years.

This isolated island-municipality has a population of about 10,000 scattered in 12 tiny barrios.

The Chief Executive landed here this morning aboard a whale boat of the Philippine Navy ship RPS 21 and was met at the local wharf by a conglomeration of the inhabitants led by Mayor Pintao Lim.

From the wharf the President spent most of the time shaking hands with the minority groups, with Museum officials close behind briefing him on the social status of the tribes.

On this tiny speck of earth can be found a glaring combination of the past and the present which is easily discernable from the groups that welcomed the Chief Executive at the wharf and the manner with which they built their homes.

Most of the inhabitants live on houses on stilts. Even those inland have highly elevated homes with modern features.

During his stay the President took occasion to explain to the inhabitants the Administration's program of government with particular emphasis on the Philippine claim to North Borneo on which he said favorable developments had been achieved since the filing of the claim in 1964.

The President said that he feels proud in having a hand in the settlement of the question, as he expressed his gratitude for the warm reception accorded him and his party.

After conferring with local officials on problems presented to him in the course of his visit, the President reboarded the PN ship at 2:30 p.m., en route to Balabac Island off the southern tip of Palawan which he will visit tomorrow on his way to remote places in the island.

**November 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal dropped by this morning in Balabac Island, predominantly Moslem island, off the southern tip of Palawan, while enroute to Quezon town on the west coast of the province to visit the Tabon Caves and the famous Underground River.



The President's visit to this island formed part of his cultural trips to give impetus to efforts for the conservation of the cultural heritage and patrimony of the Filipinos as a people.

This island-municipality is inhabited mostly by Moslem of the *Mulibog Tribe* who compose 90% of the island's population of about 4,500. It is also famous for its mouse deer and talking bird, the *Tiong*.

The President's visit here established another "first" for the island, as it was the first time that a Chief Executive of the land had set foot on it.

As soon as the Philippine Navy ship RPS 21 bearing the President dropped anchor at the Sulu Sea off this municipality, musical strains resembling those of the modern "Bird Dance" pieces were heard continuously from the shore until after the President landed.

A group of Mulibogs with "agongs" and "kulintangans," native musical instruments, heartily struck musical pieces in welcome expression to the Chief Executive.

Leading the welcomers at the wharf were Gov. Telesforo Paredes, Mayor Jesus Aban, a Nacionalista, and Vice-Mayor Arsenio T. Badenas. The President landed under a drizzle which developed into a driving rain as he entered the town proper.

Drenching rain notwithstanding the people kept on trailing him, unmindful of their wet clothes.

In remarks before the inhabitants the President told them of his concept of government whereby government officials, including the highest official in the land, should visit with the people, especially those in isolated places to see for themselves the people's needs and problems.

The President also took occasion to expound on problems he is encountering in the Administration's efforts to give better opportunities for the greatest number of the people because of "consistent obstructionism put up by opposition Nacionalistas."

The President said he is accepting the challenge of the Nacionalistas because he believes that the people are with him in his fight for the cause of the common man.

During his three-hour stay the President witnessed the performance of native dance numbers put on by native Muslims especially for him to see.

The President also had occasion to listen to local problems, one of which involves the exclusion of lands occupied by cultural minority groups from the sale of public lands to other parties.

There was jubilation among the people of this island when they were assured by the President that should it become necessary to relocate the Iwahig Penal Colony, it would be to some other places.

The President reboarded the RPS 21 at 11 a.m. for the resumption of his cultural voyage to the Tabon Caves in western Palawan.

He will confer upon Dr. Robert Fox, chief anthropologist of the National Museum, the Rizal Pro-Patria Award for his discovery of the Tabon skull cap.

**November 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal ventured into the realm of the past today by visiting archeological sites at the Tabon caves in Quezon, Palawan, that had yielded historical relics which could very well reveal the cultural heritage of the Filipino race.

Climbing steep and slippery mountain trails connected by improvised foot bridges and ladders, the President scaled the interior of the caves and viewed excavation works and recovered artifacts which can be used in the development of an accurate timetable for the country by pre-historians.

At the Tabon cave the first to be visited by the President and his party, the Chief Executive conferred on Dr. Robert Fox, Chief Archaeologist of the National Museum, the Rizal Pro Patria Award, in recognition of his discovery of the pleistocene skull of man in the cave which has extended the frontiers of Philippine knowledge on pre-history by 22,000 years. The award was also presented Dr. Fox “for his personal sacrifices and dedication and research for the national identity of the Filipino.”

Assisting the President in the presentation ceremony which was heightened by the eeriness of its setting were National Museum Director Galo Ocampo and Gov. Telesforo Paredes.

The Chief Executive hit the water-jugged shore at the foot of the caves shortly after 8 a.m. today under an intermittent rain which soaked some unprepared members of the party to the skin.

From the sea the place looms forbidding with weather beaten rocks embedded in thick forest growths. Here is where the term “Godforsaken” can have its real meaning to describe the locale. Facing the Sulu Sea and inaccessible by land, the cave area stands majestically with clouds hugging its tops.

The climb to the cave was arduous and treacherous, rendered more so by the downpour which met the Presidential party earlier.

Obviously egged on by the spirit of adventure and thrilled by the thought of traversing the land of the living past, the President and his party pushed on—one careful step after another.

At the entrance to the cave, Dr. Fox briefed the President of the cave’s location and the specimens recovered there.

At the Tabon cave where the award ceremony was held. Dr. Fox also briefed the Chief Executive on archaeological techniques and showed him specimens recovered, like primitive implements made of stones and chips dating back from 10,000 to 20,000 years ago.

It was in this cave where Dr. Fox discovered the Tabon man’s skull cap which, through carbon test, was established to be 22,000 years old.

Proceeding to the second cave called *Diwata* the President saw for himself the iron jars burial types estimated to be from 200 to 400 years old.

Recoveries of various forms of pottery, beads, metal tools, and implements from similar caves in the area has furnished additional information on Philippine cultural history.

Commenting on the discovery, the President said, “this will revive our history” and assured Dr. Fox of full support in his undertaking. “It is for this reason that I came here,” he added.

Fox told the Chief Executive during the tour of the cave that considering the meager funds thrown into this undertaking, he would not be able to explore all the caves even during his lifetime.

Also with the President in his tour of the caves were AFP Chief of Staff Alfredo N. Santos, who was in the Palawan area checking on the anti-smuggling campaign and PN Vice-Commander Felix Apolinario and Mayor Juan Pagayona.

From the Cathedral-like caves of stalactites and stalagmites, the President traced his way back to the whale boat and proceeded to Quezon proper where he inspected the branch of the National Museum which displayed the artifacts recovered from the Tabon caves.

The town itself is more of a settlement than a town with no roads to speak of.

He was the first President to set foot on this town.

In his talks before a gathering of the inhabitants in front of the municipal hall, the President reported on his program to lift the common man from their age-old poverty and the roadblocks put up by Nacionalistas to its realization.

He thanked the people for their reception and assured them of his help on their problems.

After lunch at the residence of Justice of the Peace Avelino Abiog, the President re-boarded the RPS 21 at 1 p.m.

In the course of the trip the President directed Director Ocampo to draft a proposed legislation on the conservation of national treasures to cover historical building sites and landmarks; the prohibition of the exportation of cultural relics and the control and regulation of archaeological diggings by the Museum Director. He commended Ocampo for his good work.

**November 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today directed Acting Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño to look into complaints of farmer-settlers in Mindoro Oriental whose land had been included as site of the National Agricultural School of the province.

In a directive wired from the RPS 21 en route to Puerto Princesa, Palawan, the President this morning called Secretary Mariño's attention to the plight of a group of farmers in Barrio Alcate, Victoria, who are being ordered to vacate their farms by the fiscal's office. The President asked the executive secretary to submit a report on his findings as soon as possible.

According to Graciano S. Sanchez, spokesman of the group, the farmers settled in Oriental Mindoro in 1948, and opened a virgin tract of agricultural land in Barrio Alcate. Since then they have improved the land and planted it to rice, corn, coconut, cacao, and coffee.

Three years later, a presidential proclamation made these farms part of the projected Mindoro National Agricultural School. The farmers sent a petition to the then President Quirino for the exclusion of their lands from the MINAS compound. Later in 1959, the municipality of Victoria passed a resolution supporting the farmer's petition.

The farmers, the spokesman said, were making their last appeal to President Macapagal.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation declaring Thursday, November 26, this year, a special public holiday "for national thanksgiving".

In his Proclamation No. 324, the President said it was but fitting that "a day be set aside which to dedicate our noblest thoughts in prayer and thanksgiving to God for all the blessing He has showered upon us."

He called upon all the people to turn their thoughts on that day "to the Lord and offer him a prayer of thanks. . . ."

**November 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today took steps to facilitate the extension of assistance to flood and typhoon-stricken provinces as he ordered the stocks of the RCA and the NAMARCO in localities available for immediate relief of calamity victims.

The President issued the order upon receiving partial reports of the widespread destruction of lives and property wrought by the recent floods in Northern Luzon and by typhoon “*Ining*” in Visayan and Mindanao provinces.

The Chief Executive directed that the local RCA and NAMARCO stocks be released on credit to the SWA which will take care of their distribution to the needy.

The arrangement had to be made in view of the President’s desire to have these relief goods reach the beneficiaries as quickly as possible. He said that release of funds for the purchase of these goods and their dispatch to the affected localities would require much longer time.

Upon instructions of the President, Justice Secretary and concurrently Acting Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño called a meeting of representatives of the Budget Commission, SWA, Red Cross, Constabulary, Department of Health, RCA, NAMARCO, and the Department of Public Works at Malacañang this morning.

Secretary Mariño coordinated the activities of these agencies with the view to hastening the dispatch of relief materials and promptly alleviating the sufferings of the victims in the ravaged localities.

Among others present at the meeting were Budget Commissioner Faustino Sychangco, Assistant Executive Secretary Armand Fabella, Civil Defense Administrator Alfredo Eugenio, Lt. Cols. Mabini Fontanilla and Pedro del Rosario, and Major Vicente Opilas, all of Camp Crame. Also present were Gov. Constantino Navarro and Rep. Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, and Mayor Romeo Guanzon of Bacolod City, who made representations for their typhoon-stricken localities.

President Macapagal today exhorted “those of us who believe in freedom and dignity for all mankind” to derive vigor and resolve in the martyrdom of the late American President John F. Kennedy.

In a statement issued on the first death anniversary of the beloved American President, the Chief Executive said Mr. Kennedy “symbolized man’s heritage of dignity and man’s hope for peace in freedom.”

Full text of the President’s statement follows:

A year after the death of President John F. Kennedy, the world still mourns. Indeed, as long as the world believes in the dignity of the human individual and as long as the concept of freedom and equality for all men exists, so long will the world remember and grieve over the passing of John Kennedy. For in his lifetime, President Kennedy symbolized man’s heritage of dignity and man’s hope for peace in freedom.

In the struggle against communism, John Kennedy’s was a firm and unwavering will. This is the legacy he left behind him, and those of us who believe in freedom and dignity should derive new vigor and resolve in his martyrdom and carry on his crusade to attain this freedom and dignity for all mankind. This is the only way we can keep faith with his vision and his dream.

The memory of this great American shall endure as long as men love freedom and seek peace.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

## **Official Week in Review: November 22 — November 28, 1964**

**November 22.**—EARLY this morning the President spent sometime reading the newspapers.

The President also issued an executive order creating a National Traffic Advisory Committee to plan, study, and recommend measures for the promotion of traffic safety.

Before receiving callers this afternoon the President relaxed by playing billiards with his aide, Capt. Juan Cabrera, Jr.

President Macapagal this afternoon met with officials of Surigao del Norte, who petitioned for the declaration of a state of emergency in the province and for enactment of a special law for the relief and rehabilitation of typhoon victims in case a special session of Congress is called.

Gov. Constantino Navarro and Rep. Reynaldo Honrado showed the Chief Executive photographs of the extent of damage wrought by typhoon *Ining* in their province just a few days ago.

Vice-Gov. Jove Sering submitted to the President a report and an appeal for relief which was prepared upon Gov. Navarro's instructions as a result of his inspections of the province after the typhoon.

Judge Pedro Navarro of the Gapan, Nueva Ecija Court of First Instance, a native of Surigao, was with the Surigao officials during their call on the President.

The President also received Congressman-elect Lester L. Wolff of the 3rd district of New York State, USA.

Wolff paid the Chief Executive a courtesy call prior to his return to the US tomorrow after a week's visit to the Philippines.

The President and the First Lady heard mass at the Malacañang chapel at 7 p.m.

**November 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal formally turned over today to the United States Government a precious American museum piece, the sailing ship *Kaiulani*, as a gift of the Filipino people to the American people.

Dr. Alan Hutchinson, president of the Maritime Historical Society of the District of Columbia, received the relic from the President in behalf of President Johnson and the American people, in simple but impressive ceremonies at Malacañang this afternoon.

In presenting the historic vessel, the President expressed the hope that it "will serve not just as a reminder of the proud traditions of American seamen, but as a constant and unchanging symbol of the goodwill that the Filipinos have in their hearts for the American people, the goodwill and friendship that have united the two nations together in peace and war."

"Let it sail to the Potomac with its cargo of goodwill and best wishes. Let it be a shining, unsinkable memorial to the common ideals that weld the Filipino and the American peoples so closely together," the President said.

During the ceremony. Dr. Hutchinson presented President Macapagal and Don Vicente Madrigal and the Madrigal Shipping Company with resolutions of the Board of Trustees of the Maritime Historical Society of the District of Columbia, expressing its "sincere and heartfelt thanks" to the people of the Philippines.

The resolution specifically cited the President "for his statesmanship, sympathetic interest, and foresight which made possible the gift of the *KAIULANI* as a symbol of the warm friendship existing between the people of the Republic of the Philippines and of the people of the United States of America.

To the family of Don Vicente Madrigal and the Madrigal Shipping Company, the American Historical Society expressed its gratitude “for their generous donation of the *KAIULANI*, the last of the Yankee square riggers.”

Preceding the formal presentation of the relic, Dr. Hutchinson and Antonio Madrigal, representing the Madrigal family, signed in the presence of the President and US Ambassador William McC. Blair, a document effecting the physical transfer of the *Kaiulani*.

President Macapagal had announced the donation of the historical relic. as a gift of the Filipino people to the American people, during his recent visit to the US. He presented to President Johnson a model of the 65-year old sailing ship, the last of 17,000 of the type which used to serve as the mainstay of the American merchant fleet.

The ship came to the Philippines with the American liberation forces, and was acquired by the family of Vicente Madrigal, after the liberation. Used as a log-hauling barge for years, the Madrigals offered the ship to the President to be donated to the US as a museum piece.

In accepting the “magnificent gift,” Dr. Hutchinson said the *Kaiulani* will be completely and authentically restored by the Maritime Historical Society and permanently berthed on the Washington, D. C. waterfront, “where her beautiful lines will change the skyline of the American capital and shine as a symbol of the warm friendship and goodwill existing between our two great countries.”

The historic occasion, Hutchinson said, marks the beginning of *KAIULANI*’s long last voyage home.

Following the ceremony guests were treated by the President and the First Lady to a *merienda* at the Palace porch.

Among those present at the affair were some members of the Madrigal family, members of the Cabinet headed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez, Sen. Francisco Rodrigo, and Rep. Godofredo Ramos of the Senate and House foreign relations committees, respectively; AFP officials led by General Alfredo M. Santos, AFP Chief of Staff; and American embassy and military officials.

This morning the President met at breakfast with Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, who reported on his recent trips to the United States and Japan.

In the evening the President and the First Lady were guests of honor at an informal dinner held at the American Embassy Ballroom.

**November 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today received provincial and municipal officials who reiterated their pledge of support to his reelection bid.

The governors and mayors assured the President that their respective regions will be behind him in the 1965 elections. Among the local executives who came with their respective delegations were Govs. Jorge Almojuela of Catanduanes, Teresa J. Dupaya of Cagayan, Carmelo Barbero of Abra, Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Benigno Aquino of Tarlac, Mohamad Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, Francisco Duque of Pangasinan, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Felicisimo San Luis of Laguna, Antonio Mayuga of Romblon, Manuel Pecson of Masbate, Esteban Piczon of Samar. Arsenio Villarosa of Occidental Mindoro, Pedro Dizon of Bataan, Telesforo S. Paredes and Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte; City Mayors Mario L. Tagarao of Lucena, Zacarias Ticzon of San Pablo, and Isaac Tolentino of Tagaytay; and Provincial Board Member Paz O. Marquez of Quezon.

Former Mayor Francisco Cambangay of Trinidad, Bohol, former NP chairman of his town, joined the group of municipal mayors to reassure the President of his support.

In the group of provincial governors was Gov. Esteban Bernardino of Bohol, who requested for the release of funds from the Calamity Fund for the victims of typhoon *Louise* in his province. Bernido said some 1,000 families in his province were rendered homeless by the typhoon.

The President attended to the local executives from 10 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Earlier this morning the President received the special Cabinet team which he had dispatched to Surigao del Norte yesterday to assess the extent of the damage wrought in that province, and which reported to him on its mission.

Headed by Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, the team was composed of Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio, Health Undersecretary Clemente Gatmaitan, and Public Highways Commissioner Manuel Feliciano.

The President also received Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon, who is leaving on a goodwill mission to Mexico tomorrow.

As a special ambassador, Bengzon will attend some of the affairs to be held in the South American country in connection with the celebration of the Philippine-Mexican Friendship Year.

In the afternoon the President received American Ambassador William McC. Blair, Jr., who delivered to him a message from U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson expressing the sympathy of the American people to Filipinos, who suffered losses from typhoon *Louise*.

Later he conferred with Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez on foreign policy matters. Sec. Mendez is leaving for the United Nations, Thursday, as head of the Philippine delegation to the world body.

The President also received Solicitor General Arturo Alafriz, who called for final consultations on the eve of his departure for Washington, D. C, to appear on behalf of the Philippine Government at a hearing set by the US Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.

Alafriz will appear to substantiate the Philippine omnibus claims amounting to millions of dollars, and claims of original war damage claimants, who died intestate, or without heirs.

The Republic of the Philippines should be the successor-in-interest of those deceased claimants.

Rep. Vicente de Lara accompanied a delegation of 17 from Barrio Carmen, Cagayan de Oro City, to ask the Chief Executive for release of public work funds.

The delegation headed by Roque Chacon, president of the Parent-Teachers College and Mrs. Antera L. Dorado, vice-president of the Parent-Teachers' Association of Carmen, asked for funds to build a separate waterworks system in their barrio from the one serving them in Cagayan de Oro City.

Another group of Misamis Oriental officials, all political followers of Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, also saw the President after Rep. De Lara.

**November 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal made a flying visit today to Surigao del Norte, during which he conducted an on-the-spot survey of the extent of damage caused to the province by typhoon *Louise*.

With the President during the survey was the First Lady who brought along with her cases of relief goods donated so far in a relief and fund campaign she launched for the victims of the typhoon.

The President and the First Lady arrived at the Surigao capital at 10 a.m. and was met by crowd led by Gov. Constantino Navarro and Mayor Pedro Espina.

From the airport the President rode in an open jeep and drove around the capital town which was in shambles with the people trying to manage with their daily chores.

Addressing the people at the plaza, the President assured them that he would exhaust every legal means to help them in the gigantic task of rehabilitation and reconstruction.

From the capital town the President and the First Lady motored to the coastal towns of Anao-aon and Sison.

The First Couple was accompanied in their survey by Gov. Navarro, Rep. Reynaldo Honrado, and other local officials.

After the survey the President and the First Lady boarded the presidential Fokker plane *The Common Man* for the trip back to Manila.

At Malacañang the President this afternoon received a delegation of about 50 provincial and municipal officials and Nacionalista Party leaders from Lanao del Sur.

During the call four NP councilors of Marawi City took their oaths of affiliation with the Liberal Party before the President.

The new affiliates to the LP were Councilors (Mrs.) Salam Pangadapun, Hadji Mama Racman, Hadji Dima Dimaampao, and Hadji Esmail Barodi.

Heading the delegation were Rep. Rascid Lucman, Gov. Madki Alonto, Mayor Palawan Disomimba of Tamparan, who is also president of the Lanao del Sur Mayors' League, and Marawi City Vice-Mayor Taha O. Rogong.

After receiving his afternoon callers the President presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

President Macapagal, expressing shock over the devastation wrought by typhoon *Louise* in Surigao del Norte, convened the Cabinet to an emergency meeting this afternoon and issued the following directives:

1. That the Armed Forces' engineer construction battalion be airlifted to the province by tomorrow "if possible" to assist Surigao residents in reconstructing their homes;
2. That a team of loan processors from SSS, GSIS, PNB be constituted and dispatched to the province to facilitate the acquisition of typhoon victims of loans with which to rehabilitate themselves;
3. That the Presidential Committee on Relief and Rehabilitation meet regularly, until the crisis shall have passed, to formulate a program of sustained rehabilitation for the province; and
4. That the Philippine Coconut Administration extend its fullest assistance to the coconut industry in the province which suffered tremendous losses, in view of the fact that Surigao folk depended mainly on this industry for their livelihood.

The President met the Cabinet barely an hour after he arrived from an ocular inspection of the typhoon-hit province. He apprised the Cabinet of what he saw, saying "never have I seen a more comprehensive devastation of any one province."

The President said he wanted the AFP to send its engineers to the province and assist in the reconstruction of houses because "I do not want to see Surigao del Norte turn into one big shanty town."

He said the usual aftermath of a destructive typhoon is the mushrooming of shanties.

Defense Secretary Macario Peralta assured that by tomorrow, a company of engineers would be winging towards the province.



The President also expressed the belief that “mere relief” would not assist the province effectively. “What is required is a program of sustained rehabilitation,” he said.

**November 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today conferred with Liberal senators on matters concerning the LP national convention on Saturday. Present at the meeting held at the Malacañang music room this morning were Senate Minority Floor Leader Estanislao Fernandez and Sens. Gerardo Roxas, Ambrosio Padilla, Maria Kalaw-Katigbak, Camilo Osias, and Francisco Rodrigo.

Absent were Sens. Juan R. Liwag who is out of the country and Tecla San Andres Ziga who is out of town.

Following the conference the President had separate private talks with Senator Roxas and Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal.

In the afternoon the President received Admiral Thomas Moorer Commander of the US Seventh Fleet, who paid him a courtesy call.

Moorer arrived this morning to attend a conference of military officials from 16 countries in Clark Air Base. He was accompanied to Malacañang by U. S. Ambassador William McC. Blair, Jr., and Rear Admiral Jack Monroe, Commander of the U. S. Naval Forces in the Philippines.

Immediately after receiving the American naval officer, the President had a brief meeting with Ambassador Blair, who presented him with a duplicate of the MacArthur Medal in memory of his visit to the MacArthur Foundation last October 4.

The serialized medallion, numbered 75, was forwarded to the President through Secretary of State Dean Rusk.

The President also received Spanish Ambassador Miguel Teus who also paid him a courtesy call. The Spanish envoy returned recently from a vacation in Spain.

Later he went down to the Malacañang Heroes Hall where he was presented with a resolution of thanks by CPA candidates from Cebu City and other parts of the Visayas and Mindanao for approving, the holding of simultaneous CPA examinations in Cebu City and Manila shortly. The President originally approved the holding of the CPA examinations in Manila only, but reconsidered his decision following receipt of a petition from prospective CPA examinees in Visayas and Mindanao.

In their resolution the CPA examinees said that the President “has shown once again his abiding interest and concern for the youth of the land.”

The examinees pointed out that hundreds of prospective CPA examinees would not have been able to take the examinations in Manila because of financial and other compelling reasons.

The resolution was presented to the President by Amparo Rodil, National Director of the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) and past President of the PICPA Cebu Chapter, and who was one of the delegates to the 18th National Convention of the PICPA honored at *merienda* at the Heroes Hall this afternoon by the First Lady.

President Macapagal has proclaimed the period from November 29 to December 5, this year, as Public Relations Week.

In his proclamation the President called upon all citizens and residents, as well as schools, educational institutions, and civic organizations to support the campaign through appropriate programs promoting good public relations and courtesy in public offices.

He said the Week could “foster the practice of good public relations and courtesy discipline among government officials and employees.”

He placed the celebration under the auspices of the National Association of Government Public Relations Officers of the Philippines.

He also directed the heads of the various departments, bureaus, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the government, including government-owned and controlled corporations, to conduct information and education campaign to carry out the objectives of the proclamation.

President Macapagal has issued a proclamation declaring the period from December 1 to 7, this year, as Isabelo de los Reyes Week.

The President issued the proclamation to commemorate the memory of the late Isabelo de los Reyes who spearheaded the free labor movement in this country and whose birth centenary falls this year.

He said “it is desirable to set aside a week to honor him (de los Reyes) and others who have contributed in promoting the welfare of the working class.

**November 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal resumed receiving “Common Man’s Day” callers at Malacañang today.

A total of 2,346 callers, including 18 delegations, came to see the Chief Executive from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The President was assisted by the First Lady and his regular “Common Man’s Day” staff headed by Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio.

Among the delegations who saw the President were Gov. Adela Serra-Ty of Surigao del Sur who informed the President that her province, like Surigao del Norte, suffered devastation from typhoon *Louise*. She asked that assistance also be provided her province. Gov. Serra-Ty was accompanied by Rep Vicente Pimentel and Surigao del Sur municipal mayors, who submitted to the President pictures showing the extent of typhoon damage in their respective localities.

The governor said she could not inform the President earlier of the situation in her province because all communications facilities were down. She was able to come to Manila aboard an army plane.

Mayor Carmelo Porras of Davao City brought along some political followers who took their oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party before the President. The new affiliates said that after Senate President Ferdinand Marcos was chosen standard bearer of the Nacionalista Party, they believed it would be for the greater welfare of the nation to support the reelection of the President.

The new affiliates were former Gov. Gregorio Dacuycuy, Mayors Amadeo Camile of Samal, and Miseal Clamor of Catiil, Davao City Councilor Cornelio Mascariño, former Vice-Mayor Balsito Angeles, and Alfredo Abayon.

A delegation representing 100 families from Lingga, Calamba, Laguna, requested expropriation of the land they occupy. They said they were being evicted by the alleged owner of the land which they themselves had reclaimed from the lake. The Lingga residents claimed the area is public property.

A delegation of veterans headed by Col. Simeon Medalla, president of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines, and Primitivo Lovina, president of the Philippine Veterans’ Bank, who witnessed the President sign Proclamation No. 330, setting aside a 1,037-square meter lot on Monteverde Avenue in Davao City, a former Japanese property, for the Veterans Federation to construct a building to house its Davao branch and possibly also a branch of the veterans bank, a recreation center, and a clinic.

The earlier groups of callers were attended to by the First Lady and Secretary Cancio when President Macapagal left Malacañang this morning for the residence of Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal on Macopa Street. Quezon City, with whom he discussed matters concerning the LP national convention tomorrow.

Shortly before 1 p.m. the President left the Palace again to attend a luncheon tendered by Speaker Villareal at the Bulakeña Restaurant on Roxas Boulevard for the convention delegates.

Back at the Palace an hour and a half later the President rested until evening when he and the First Lady tendered an informal dinner for the LP delegates at the Malacañang Heroes Hall.

**November 28.**—THIS morning the President met with Mayor Antonio Villegas in Malacañang in another of a series of consultations made by the Chief Executive with party leaders in connection with the national convention.

The President was unanimously chosen by the Liberal Party national convention today as the man to lead the ruling party again in the 1965 elections.

The vote of confidence was given the Chief Executive by the more than 2,600 enthusiastic delegates who jampacked the spacious Sta. Ana Cabaret.

Although the choice of the President by acclamation was expected even long before the holding of the convention, the tumult and enthusiasm with which he was greeted upon entering the convention hall to deliver his acceptance speech, left no doubt that the “man of the hour” for the ruling party is no other than the incumbent Chief Executive.

Thunderous ovation and shouts of “Mabuhay” greeted the President as soon as he alighted from his car till he ascended the platform. With the President in entering the convention hall was the First Lady.

In his acceptance speech which was interrupted repeatedly by the applause of the over-enthusiastic delegates, the President expressed full confidence in the overwhelming victory of the Liberal Party in the forthcoming elections as he stressed that the need of the present fight against poverty is good leaders and not violent leadership.

The choice of the President as LP standard bearer came shortly after noon when Sen. Amrrosio Padilla withdrew his candidacy, and then seconded the nomination the President by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal.

Waves upon waves of cheers and exultations marked the convention as the President inched his way to the convention hall to greet individual delegates.

The President left the convention hall at about 4 p.m. and proceeded to the residence of Mayor Maximo Estrella of Makati, Rizal, where he and the First Lady had *merienda*.

Back in Malacañang late in the afternoon, the President continued to follow the progress of the convention with a television set in his bedroom. Still left in the hands of the conventionists at the time were the nominations of the vice-presidential and senatorial candidates.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1964). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 60(48), cdi-iii-cdix.

**President's Week in Review: December 1-5, 1964**

## **President's Week in Review: December 6-12, 1964**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**December 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today took time but to look into the progress of the work being undertaken by the National Shrine Commission to develop Corregidor as one of the nation's principal tourists attractions.

The President invited Sen. Gerardo Roxas to go along on a visit to "The Rock", and they toured the historic island for 30 minutes today accompanied by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., who is concurrently chairman of the Commission; and Secretary of Public Works Jorge Abad.

The group was guided by Capt. Roberto Dulay, commanding officer of the Army engineer detachment on "The Rock" island.

Upon being informed that about 80 per cent of road network on the island is still dusty, the Chief Executive directed Sec. Abad to immediately improve the roads.

The President left at 8:30 a.m. aboard the *RPS 21* on an unscheduled inspection tour of the island after conferring upon Lieut. Roberto Ampig the Military Merit Medal award for his successful anti-smuggling and anti-illegal fishing campaign in the Mindoro and Palawan areas. The award ceremony was held at the Philippine Navy landing on Roxas Boulevard.

The President returned to Manila in the evening.

**December 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal devoted his day today working on official papers preparatory to his trip tomorrow for an ocular inspection of the country's southernmost borders.

The President decided to sail for Sibutu Island following a conference with defense and foreign affairs officials on reported infiltration into Mindanao and Sulu by foreign nationals.

Determined to dispose of as many official papers as he could, the President crossed the Pasig River aboard the presidential motor launch, "The Chief" at 8:30 a.m. for Malacañang Park where he worked the whole day at the "Pangarap" guest house.

With him were Justice Secretary and concurrently Acting Executive Secretary Salvador L. Marino and other presidential assistants.

**December 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal postponed his scheduled departure this morning for the South to preside over a meeting of the Presidential Committee on Relief and Rehabilitation in the wake of reports that provinces in northern Mindanao were suffering from devastating floods.

The Chief Executive was originally scheduled to leave at 9 am. today for Sibutu Island for an ocular inspection of the country's southernmost points because of reported infiltration by foreign nationals into Mindanao and Sulu.

Following his meeting with the relief committee which lasted from 3 to 6 p.m., the President motored to the Malacañang Park where he viewed the remains of Capt. Benjamin Sarmiento, surgeon of the Presidential Guards Battalion, lying in state at the community chapel.

Capt. Sarmiento died last Sunday following a heart attack.

This morning at breakfast the President conferred with Cebu City Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., preparatory to the President's trip to Cebu, to view the progress of preparations being made for the celebration of the Fourth Centenary of Philippine Christianization in Cebu City.

President Macapagal this evening directed the Department of Public Works to accelerate the pace of the Administration's highways construction program.

In a conference at Malacañang the President asked Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad to rush the construction and completion of seven major highway projects in Luzon, including such vital arteries as the Manila South Road in the Bicol region and the E. de los Santos Highway around Manila.

**December 9.**—THE Chief Executive left 8:20 a.m. aboard the Presidential plane "Common Man" for Sibutu Island in the Tawi-tawi Group.

Aboard *RPS 28* President Macapagal expressed elation over the seizure of 600 cases of blue-seal cigarettes by the presidential ship *RPS 21* this noon off northern Palawan.

The contraband was seized in pursuance of the government's anti-smuggling campaign. Last Sunday a big shipment was seized.

The navy report received by the President stated that the *RPS 21* was scouring Palawan waters for another kumpit carrying 200 cases of blue-seal cigarettes.

At the time the *RPS 21* was en route to Sulu waters to make a rendezvous with this ship at Tandubas, in the Tawitawi Island group.

The President boarded *RPS 28* in Jolo at 11:50 a.m. shortly upon arrival aboard the presidential Friendship Fokker plane from Manila. He was scheduled to arrive at Pangutaran at 4 o'clock this afternoon for a two and one-half hour visit en route to Siasi where he is expected early tomorrow morning.

The President is on an ocular survey of the country's southern backdoors in the wake of reported infiltration of the area by foreign nationals.

Before enplaning for the South this morning, the President visited the Rodriguez residence on Salud St., Pasay City, at about 8 o'clock.

He viewed the remains of the late senator and condoled with Mrs. Rodriguez and other members of the bereaved family.

The President's statement on the solon's death follows:

"The death of Sen. Eulogio Rodriguez marks the passing of a great tradition. It ends a colorful era that spanned more than half a century in the history of Philippine politics. The Amang's passion was politics and he dedicated all his energy indeed his lifetime, to the pursuit of that passion. No other Filipino can equal the passion he had for politics, and no Filipino can question the integrity with which he pursued it.

His political life started in the early days of this century. He was a witness to the death throes of Spanish colonial rule and the birth pangs of American dominance; he saw the advent of the Commonwealth government and lived through the long dark night of the Japanese occupation. He grew in political maturity as his country went through all these upheavals and he used this wisdom in the post-war era which saw the flowering of his political career. Indeed, Senator Rodriguez became an institution in his lifetime, a symbol of party discipline and allegiance upon whom the younger leaders looked for political guidance and instruction.

We grieve his demise. His country mourns his passing.”

The President congratulated Fr. Horacio de la Costa upon his assumption of the office of provincial Superior of the Philippine province of the Society of Jesus.

Fr. De la Costa was named head of the Jesuits in the Philippines yesterday, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, by the father general of the Society of Jesus.

In his wire to the 47-year-old prelate, the President said: “Your assumption of this exalted office is not only a tribute to your brilliance as a scholar and your dedication as a clergyman, but also a long-awaited recognition of the worth of the Filipino clergy.”

**December 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today visited two islets in the Sulu archipelago on the second day of his scheduled week-long tour of the small islands in the southern seas.

Reports were sketchy as even radio contact with the Philippine Navy Ship *RPS 28* was reported garbled by distance and the choppy waves which had been lashing at the PN vessel.

The President landed at Siasi island at 8 o'clock this morning and addressed a public rally where he was reported to have wooed the voters to rally behind his reelection bid.

From Siasi island, the President boarded the *RPS 28* and headed for Tandubas where he landed shortly after 4 p.m. today.

At Tandubas, the President also addressed a rally in an effort to sew up the voters in that sparsely-populated island.

After a brief political visit to the island, the President changed boats and boarded the *RPS 21*, the former RPS Sta. Maria, which he has been using as a presidential vessel.

He sailed towards Sitangkay island in the Sulu archipelago. He is scheduled to arrive in Sitangkay island at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Meanwhile, Malacañang newsmen yesterday took off for Sanga Sanga island where they boarded another navy vessel in a bid to reach the President.

They are scheduled to join the President's party at Sitangkay early this morning.

**December 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal yesterday cancelled an earlier plan to visit Sibutu Island near the Celebes, and instead steamed towards Cebu where he will address a proclamation rally which will introduce him and Sen. Gerardo L. Roxas as the Liberal Party presidential and vice-presidential team.

President Macapagal landed at Sitangkay which observers say is the farthest island south.

Sketchy reports reaching Malacañang said that the President made a brief visit of Sitangkay Island and addressed another rally in an effort to sew up the votes of that islet in the Sulu archipelago.

He left the island shortly after noon aboard the *RPS 21* for Cebu City.

In his talk with newsmen in Sitangkay, the President said he was deferring his plan of revamping his Cabinet before the Christmas season.

**December 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal's trip to Cebu City was perilled yesterday by typhoon "Naning" which was located near Surigao and was packing 240 kilometer-per-hour winds at its center.

The President is steaming towards Cebu City from Sitangkay in the Sulu archipelago aboard the Philippine Navy ship *RPS 21*.

Sketchy reports reaching Malacañang said the presidential vessel was rocked by turbulent waves spawned by the inclement weather. He had luncheon with newsmen who joined him aboard the PN vessel. He joined them again at dinner last night.

The President chatted with newsmen on the probable senatorial lineup but always maintained that the probables were consensus of the members of the Liberal Party executive committee. He did not want to be charged with dictating the men who will make the LP senatorial line-up.

The executive committee is meeting Tuesday to discuss the LP line-up.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



**President's Week in Review: December 13-19, 1964**

## President's Week in Review: December 20-26, 1964

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**December 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal will return to Manila tomorrow afternoon after a three-day tour of Occidental Mindoro, Batangas and Romblon islets and the far distant towns of southeastern Quezon.

The Chief Executive reboarded the Navy ship *RPS 21* for Manila late this evening after addressing a rally in Tagkawayan on the northeast coast of Ragay Gulf.

The President started his tour of Quezon province this morning when he landed at the isolated town of San Narciso on the eastern shore of the Bondoc Peninsula.

To reach the town, the President had to walk more than a kilometer of rugged, muddy road inland from the shore.

While in San Narciso, the President directed Teofilo Asuncion, head executive assistant of the Social Welfare Administration, to take a nine-year old boy who has a cleft palate, a physical deformity whereby the upper lip was widely split in two, for operation in Manila.

The Chief Executive chanced upon the boy riding on a carabao-drawn sled while he was on his way back to the wharf for his next stop in Buenavista.

In going to Buenavista, the President had to take a motor launch upstream in a winding river three nautical miles inland.

On the President's way back to the ship, he dropped by a fishing village at the mouth of the river to return the season's greetings of the barrio folks who had gone out of their houses to shout their greetings to the Chief Executive then passing by.

From Buenavista, the President sailed further north to Guinayangan, and then east to Tagkawayan.

Enthusiastic welcome was accorded the President wherever he went, especially in San Narciso and Buenavista where it was the first time a head of the nation ever set foot on these places.

In well attended rallies the President had to pause every now and then as misty-eyed audiences cheered as he riled the opposition for its antipathy to the common welfare by frustrating the Administration's effort to give better opportunities for all.

During the last two days of island-hopping tour, the President visited Looc in Lubang Island of Occidental Mindoro, Tingloy in Maricaban Island, and San Agustin in "Verde Island of Batangas, and the northern islets of Maestro del Campo, Simara and Bantan of Romblon.

In all these islands, the people poured into the shore to welcome the President, the first Chief Executive to visit them.

The President expects to be in Manila tomorrow night.

**December 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal concluded his three-day island hopping tour by working on state papers all morning today aboard the *RPS 21* and was back in Manila early this afternoon.

The Chief Executive had been to several islets of Mindoro Occidental, Batangas, and Romblon, and to several towns of Quezon along the coast of the Ragay Gulf.

On his homeward trip aboard the *RPS 21* upon receipt of news that his daughter, Gloria, had already arrived from the United States, the President decided to land, unscheduled, at the Batangas wharf shortly before noon today.

The President was originally scheduled to arrive in Manila aboard the ship this evening.

From Batangas, the President motored to Manila arriving at Malacañang past 2 p.m.

Shortly after arrival the Chief Executive busied himself working on state papers late in the afternoon and early evening.

President Macapagal has proclaimed the period from January 24 to 30 next year as Philippine Fiber Week.

In issuing the proclamation, the Chief Executive pointed out that the Philippine fiber industry is one of the main industries of the country on which more than five million Filipinos depend for support and livelihood.

The President said "it is only fitting and proper that there be set aside a week during the year to focus attention on the contribution of the industry to the national progress." He also expressed the hope that setting aside the week would "encourage our people to accelerate production of Philippine fibers for the benefit of the country at large and the improvement of the lot of our people dependent on the industry in particular."

Observance of the Week will be under the auspices of the Bureau of Inspection Service.

**December 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal met today with his Cabinet on the United States bases situation.

During the meeting the President and the Cabinet heard reports from Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez and Justice Secretary Salvador L. Marino on the US bases and the reported recent incidents there.

This morning the President received US Ambassador William McCormick Blair, Jr., who submitted to him a report on the US bases incidents.

Also this morning the Chief Executive presented to Gemma Cruz, "Miss International of 1965," the Golden Heart Presidential Medal Award in recognition of her outstanding achievements and services. Among those present at the award ceremonies held at the Palace music room were the First Lady, the awardee's mother, Mrs. Carmen Guerrero-Nakpil, Miss Gloria Macapagal, and Director Galo Ocampo of the National Museum.

At 10 a.m., the President and the First Lady motored to the Legislative building to attend the necrological services for Rep. Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo. The Iloilo solon died early Sunday morning following a heart attack.

In the afternoon the President was guest of honor and speaker at the unveiling of the marker and laying of the cornerstone of the DBP building in Makati, Rizal, and at the 63rd anniversary celebration of the Bureau of Printing.

At the DBP affair the President laid the cornerstone while the First Lady unveiled the marker at the new site.

Before proceeding to the Bureau of Printing from the DBP affair, the First Couple and their daughter, Gloria, motored to New Manila, Quezon City, to felicitate Vice-President and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez on their silver wedding anniversary.

The First Couple stayed at the Vice-President's place for 30 minutes.

**December 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal confined himself today to activities concerning the country's foreign relations in the cultural and economic fields.

This morning the President witnessed the signing in Malacañang of a P16-million Credit Agreement between the Philippines and the United States.

The agreement was signed by NEC Chairman Hilarion Henares, Jr., for the Philippine government, and by Director James Ingersoll of AID for the U.S. government.

In the afternoon the President officiated at the renaming and opening of the Manila-Cavite South Road as Mexico Road.

The proclamation of the new road by the Chief Executive was one of the highlights of the Philippine celebration of Philippine-Mexican Friendship Year.

The President assisted by the First Lady, and Mexican Ambassador and Mrs. Jose Muñoz Zapata, unveiled the marker of the renamed road at the junction of Epifanio de los Santos Highway and Taft Avenue in Pasay City.

**December 24.**—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Macapagal and their children joined the holiday crowds this morning to shop for some modest items for the Christmas season.

The President and his family left Malacañang unexpectedly at 10 a.m. for Carriedo in Quiapo where they bought assorted gift items. With the First Couple were their daughter, Gloria and son, Diosdado, Jr.

After making a round of the counters in a department store, Mrs. Macapagal and her children decided to give the President as their gift a dozen of white T-shirts.

The First Lady said they would come in handy for the Chief Executive in his out-of-town trips during which he has to change undershirts about ten times a day.

While shopping, the President had occasion to inquire into business trends from the managements of the Carriedo department stores. They invariably informed the Chief Executive that business was getting along fine and that business activities are practically the same, volumewise.

After picking up their choice of gift items, the First Family had *merienda* consisting of eggpie and native cakes at a department store's soda fountain.

Shopping for the First Family this morning proved to be difficult but at the same time heartwarming.

When the presidential car pulled to a stop in front of Quiapo Church because of the congested traffic in the Carriedo area, people started to mob them to express their personal season's greetings to the President and his family.

Forced to alight from the car by their enthusiastic well-wishers, the President and the First Lady, together with children Gloria and Diosdado, Jr., walked their way to the first department store where they bought their first gift items.

Although the department store was just a stone's throw from the Quiapo Church, it took the First Family some 30 minutes to negotiate the distance because of the riotous crowds that surged to shake hands with the First Family.

Among the crowds were some poorly-clad children whom the First Couple cheered with a gift of P1.00 each. True to their age, the children kissed the peso bills as they made their way out of the onrushing crowds.

Also in the crowds were some elders who asked for assistance in their problems as their Christmas gifts. The President directed his junior presidential aide to take up the cases with the Social Welfare Administration.

From Carriedo, the First Family motored to Botica Boie on the Escolta to buy suntan lotion for the sunburnt face of the President.

While about to make a left turn to Ayala Boulevard on his way back to Malacañang shortly before noon, the President stopped his car and gave one peso each to a couple of young cigarette vendors who tried to catch up with his slow-moving car as they shouted "Merry Christmas" to him.

"Merry Christmas," the President said as he gave them a pat on the shoulder.

**December 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal flew to an isolated part of Isabela this Christmas Day and spread cheer among cultural minorities and other indigent folk in that area.

It was the third time that the Chief Executive spent part of Christmas Day with underprivileged folk.

In his visit to Dinapiqui, a coastal community in the Sierra Madre Mountains, the President launched "Operation Sagip," a DND-AFP project in coordination with the Commission on National Integration, to provide material assistance to some 3,000,000 persons comprising ethnic groups and other minorities throughout the country.

The President left for Dinapiqui at 7:15 a.m. aboard a PAF C-47. He was joined later in the coastal community of the Dumagats by General Alfredo Santos, AFP Chief of Staff; Dr. Jose O. Pelayo, SWA officer-in-charge; Mayor Emerito de Jesus of the DND Civil Affairs Office, and other ranking AFP officers.

After distributing Christmas packages to the Dumagat tribesmen, the President enplaned back to Manila, arriving in Malacañang at past noon.

Later in the afternoon the President, together with the First Lady, motored to the GSIS village in Project 8-C, Quezon City, where he officiated at the awarding of GSIS houses and lots to applicants.

**December 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal postponed his trip to Baguio this morning and convoked his Cabinet to a special meeting in the afternoon to take up plans for the early improvement and modernization of the Philippine National Railways (PNR).

The President decided to convoke the Cabinet following a breakfast conference with PNR officials in Malacañang, during which the latter submitted volumes of project studies on the improvement and modernization of the railroad system.

The Chief Executive had long expressed the desire for improved railway service. He called the Cabinet to a special meeting in order to effect immediate action on the project studies.

Present at the breakfast meeting were OEC Administrator Eleuterio Adevosio, Justice Secretary Salvador L. Marino in his capacity as Chairman of the Philippine National Bank, PNB President Rafael Recto, DBP Chairman Pablo Lorenzo, PIA Director-General Armand Fabella, PNR Chairman Fernando E. V. Sison, and PNR Manager Dominador S. Asis.

Following the Cabinet meeting, the President was scheduled to proceed with his Baguio trip. He was originally scheduled to motor to the summer capital at 8 o'clock this morning.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

**President's Week in Review: December 27-31, 1964**

**President's Week in Review: January 1-23, 1965**

## President's Week in Review: January 24-30, 1965

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**January 24.**—THE Chief Executive arrived in Sta. Cruz, fishing town on the west coast of Mindoro Occidental at 8 a.m. today aboard *RPS 21* from Sablayan in the south.

Accompanied by Gov. Arsenio Villarosa, the Chief Executive debarked from the ship anchored off shore and boarded a fiberglass speedboat upstream through one mile of winding Ramayan river hemmed by nipa palms.

The President debarked at the approach to broken Timalon bridge east of the town amidst cheers of the townsfolk in their Sunday best led by Rep. Felipe Abeleda and Mayor Florante Tria.

The Chief Executive shook hands with the welcomers, while the town's fairest ladies took turns bedecking him with garlands of flowers.

Cheers were heard as the Chief Executive broke off from the orderly row of welcomers and proceeded to the people along the river bank.

Proceeding to the town church, the Chief Executive heard *Te Deum* sung in his honor by Fr. Dennis Flynn, a Cebuano-American mestizo. *Te Deum* over, the President addressed a public rally in front of the municipal hall.

After the rally, the Chief Executive conferred with local officials down to barrio captains to determine local needs.

The President also received resolutions of gratitude; one from the town council for his visit—the first—to this town.

After the conference, the President partook of delicious *cake* for refreshment.

The President left this town at 10:15 a.m., for Abra de Hog on the northern coast, and from there proceeded to Paluan on the northwestern tip. He boarded a plane from Mamburao for Manila late in the afternoon.

**January 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today addressed the joint session of the Congress at the opening day of its 100-day regular session.

Dressed in a dark grey suit, the President arrived at Congress at exactly 5 o'clock.

The President greeted some members of Congress who were at the aisles, and met for the first time Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos, the NP presidential candidate.

The President delivered his state-of-the-nation address for 65 minutes.

Earlier in the morning the President received a joint Senate-House committee of Congress who came to inform him that Congress was now open and was ready to hear his State of the Nation message.

With Senator Gil J. Puyat and Congressman Jose Alberto as co-spokesmen, the 9-man joint committee which called on the President at 11 o'clock were Sens. Jose J. Roy, Manuel P. Manahan, Tecla San Andres-Ziga, and Maria Kalaw-Katigbak, and Reps. Vincenzo Sagun, Eladio T. Balite, and Constancio E. Castañeda.

The President cabled a message of grief and deep mourning to the British government on the death of Sir Winston Churchill, wartime Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.



He also cabled another message to President Johnson expressing the hope that the United States President will have a speedy and complete recovery from his ailment.

**January 26.** — PRESIDENT Macapagal today met with provincial and city official on matters concerning their respective regions

Among the 17 governors and two city mayors who called on the Chief Executive this morning were Nacionalista Govs. Mariano R. Perdiges of Negros Oriental and Esteban Bernido of Bohol.

Vice-Gov. Benjamin Gomez of Negros Occidental officially informed the President that he had assumed the post of governor of his province, following the death last week of Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao.

Before conferring with local officials, the President administered the oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party to Col. Eduardo Alabastro, commander of Eagle Batangas Guerrillas and a prominent Nacionalista leader of Batangas and Quezon.

Among the matters the local officials took up with the President were local appointments, urgent public works projects, and budgetary aid.

Typical of them was that of Gov. Jose Villarama of Bulacan who sought the release of funds for the construction of a waterworks system in his province. He also asked for a dredger from the Reparations Commission.

The President also received callers in the afternoon.

President Macapagal this evening got two warring Zambales officials to patch up their differences.

After a conference with the President at Malacañang, Zambales Gov. Manuel Barretto and Olongapo Mayor James Gordon agreed to make up because of what they called “our common interest.”

**January 27.**—THIS morning the President received 29 members of Congress who consulted him on matters concerning their respective districts, particularly urgent public works projects.

Rep. Benjamin Ligo of Cagayan sought the release of funds for the Pamplona river control project, while Rep. Josefina Duran of Albay requested the partial release of P100,000 for the construction of the Ligao Emergency Hospital. Duran also asked for the construction of waterworks systems in Libon and Guinobatan.

From Basilan City came Imam Mimpis Dacula, chieftain of the Yakan tribe in barrio Sengal Lamitan, who sought the release of public land for distribution to 100 families of his tribe.

The Yakan chief was accompanied to the President by Rep. Vincenzo Sagun of Zamboanga del Sur.

In the afternoon the President received Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez who came to receive instructions prior to his departure for London tomorrow to attend the funeral of Sir Winston Churchill as the President’s personal representative.

The President also sent through Pelaez the expression of grief of the Philippine people over the passing of the world statesman.

Pelaez was accompanied to Malacañang by Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez.

Enrique Zobel and Col. Jaime Velasquez (ret), accompanied by Sen Ambrosio Padilla, also saw the Chief Executive to inform him of their project to build an industrial site, similar to that in Makati, Rizal, near Cagayan de Oro City in northern Mindanao.

Officials of the PULPAPEL (Pulp and Paper Manufacturers Association) came to the President to inform him of the problems of their paper industry.

**January 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal sailed at 4:30 this afternoon on a three-day trip to the South. His first stop is the town of Roxas off the Southeastern coast of Oriental Mindoro.

The President left Malacañang after meeting some 1,300 municipal and barrio leaders in the course of his “Municipal Mayors and Barrio Captains Day” at Malacañang.

During the reception he received leaders of jeepney drivers and operators plying the Divisoria-Quiapo-Malabon route who had gone on strike in protest against what they described as harassment by Manila and Caloocan policemen. The drivers were accompanied by Malabon Mayor Lucio Gutierrez.

The President, after considering their problem, directed Presidential Assistant Pete de Jesus to consult Manila Mayor Antonio Villegas on the case.

Majority of the callers sought from the President assistance for various projects in their localities.

**January 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal held “Common Man’s Day” reception today, his second outside of Malacañang since the New Year, in the town of Roxas, Mindoro Oriental.

The first out-of-town reception this year was held in Baliuag, Bulacan on New Year’s day.

The Chief Executive arrived Roxas past 8 a.m. aboard *RPS 21* from Manila, on the first leg of his scheduled three-day stump of southeastern Mindoro, some towns in Romblon, and in Batangas on his way back.

Upon arrival at Roxas, the President and his party were met at the wharf by cheering townsfolk led by their mayor, Juan L. Gagani.

The Chief Executive arrived Roxas past 8 a.m. aboard *RPS 21* from plaza, and from there he proceeded to the town’s elementary school where he attended to the problems of his “Common Man’s Day” callers.

Jose O. Pelayo, SWA Officer-in-charge, and the regular “Common Man’s Day” staff, assisted the President in receiving callers.

From Roxas, the President and his party proceeded to Mansalay, another town to the south, and from there, steamed further to the island province’s southern tip, in the town of San Pedro (Bulalacao).

Mayor Lazaro P. Vizconde led the inhabitants of that fishing locality in welcoming the President.

Late this evening the President reboarded the *RPS 21* for Sta. Fe, a town in the southern tip of Tablas Island, Romblon, where he is scheduled to debark tomorrow morning.

**January 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal visited earlier today two islands in the province of Romblon and told the people there of what the government was doing to promote their welfare.

Visited by the Chief Executive were the town of Sta. Fe at the southern tip of Tablas Island and the municipal district of Carabao Island. He later reboarded *RPS 21* for Nasugbu in Batangas.

The President's party arrived at Sta. Fe, 8 a.m. today as scheduled, after a nights' sea travel from the towns of Roxas, Mansalay, and Bulalakaw (renamed Sen Pedro) in southeastern Mindoro Oriental which he visited yesterday.

In Roxas town, the President listened to the problems of townspeople and surrounding localities as he held there his second outside-of-Malacañang "Common Man's Day" reception since the New Year.

Upon arrival in Sta. Fe, the President was met at the wharf by cheering welcomers headed by Romblon Gov. Antonio Y. Mayuga, Mayor Amador B. Medina of that town, and former Bureau of Lands Director Jovencio Mayor.

In Sta. Fe and in Carabao, both fishing localities, the President told the municipal district of Carabao Island where the people—men, women, and children jubilantly hailed the "first" Chief of State to be in their midst.

Municipal district Mayor Prudencio T. Umabang led his people in cheering the President whom they said they could never forget.

In Sta. Fe and in Carabao, both fishing localities, the President told the people he would know more about their living conditions and their needs by visiting them.

*Source:* **National Library**

**President's Week in Review: February 1-20, 1965**

## President's Week in Review: February 21-27, 1965

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**February 21.**—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Macapagal were special guests at the formal opening of the Northern Luzon Athletic Association Meet held at the Arranz stadium in Tuguegarao, Cagayan in which nine provinces participated.

Mrs. Macapagal cut the ceremonial ribbon, assisted by Cagayan Gov. Teresita Dupaya, Rep. Tito Dupaya, Mayor Apolonio Reyes and other local officials.

The President arrived in Tuguegarao shortly before noon after a 12-hour motor trip from Manila. Upon arrival, he heard a low Mass at the local cathedral officiated by Fr. Diosdado Talamayan, parish priest. He also heard *Te Deum* sung by Msgr. Teodulo Domingo, Tuguegarao bishop.

In a speech at the meet opening, the President exhorted the athletes to develop a sense of fraternal competition, adding that winning the games is not so important as the manner by which victory is attained.

Gov. Dupaya announced a provincial board resolution made the President an adopted son of the province.

**February 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal decided last night to extend his visit to Cagayan province due to his desire to see the isolated towns of Allacapan, Lasam, Rizal, and Enrile along the Mountain Province border.

The President this morning motored to Baggao town where he was met by the townspeople headed by Mayor Wilfredo Pallagao, and escorted to the local parish church where he heard *Te Deum* sang by Fr. Gumersindo Dayrit.

After the rally and luncheon at the residence of the mayor, the President proceeded to Barrio Nadbacayan, Gattaran.

The Chief Executive spent the night at the residence of Rep. Tito Dupaya after attending the reception and dance at the Arranz Memorial Gymnasium in Tuguegarao.

After the program last night, the Chief Executive administered the oath of office to Demetrio Sanchez, Jr., of Tuao, Nueva Vizcaya, as acting provincial fiscal.

The Chief Executive left Tuguegarao at 8:30 a.m., after breakfast at the governor's residence. On his way to this town he passed by Igguig and Amulung towns where Mayors Santiago Peñaflor and Vendencio Morales prevailed upon him to address the people. The President's improved Ilocano speech was evidently well received by the townspeople wherever he visited.

**February 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal's visit to four isolated towns in Cagayan today drew from their inhabitants an emotion-filled welcome and demonstrations of affection.

In Allacapan, Lasam, and Rizal, towns near the Mountain Province boundary, as well as in Enrile, south of Tuguegarao, President Macapagal found himself hailed and cheered almost from the moment he stepped out of the helicopter which he used in visiting these distant towns.

Leaving Aparri where he stayed the night before at 8:30 a.m. the President first visited Allacapan. Barely had the helicopter landed than the people braving the clouds of dust and other light materials fanned by the aircraft, rushed to meet the first President to visit them.

Mayor Alejo Agcaoili, a Nacionalista, was so pleased with the President's coming that while making his welcome address tears flowed from his eyes.

“We have been hoping and waiting for your visit, after learning of your inspection tours to see the living conditions of people in remote areas. Our town is one of these poor and hitherto neglected communities and we are glad you did come. We will never forget your coming here and we pledge our support to your administration and to your fight for the welfare of the masses,” Agcaoili said.

Just before the President addressed the big crowd that met him, he was presented with a municipal resolution by Mayor Agcaoili, adopting him son of Allacapan.

In Lasam, the second town he visited, Mayor Isaac Agatep said that notwithstanding the fact that 70 per cent of his constituents came from Ilocos Norte, they will rally behind the President because they will disregard regional affiliation.

Landing in Rizal early in the afternoon, the President was virtually thrown off balance when an enthusiastic crowd surged forward to shake hands with him.

In Enrile, another big crowd gathered at the Our Lady of the Snow auditorium to hear him speak.

In all the towns, the President was lustily applauded as he explained mostly in Ilocano, his visits and the problems he has been encountering in carrying out his program of government for the masses.

From Enrile, the President flew to Tuguegarao, where he reboarded his car for the residence of former Nueva Vizcaya Gov. Jose Espino in Solano, Nueva Vizcaya en route back to Manila.

**February 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received this afternoon the credentials of Ambassador Harumi Takeuchi as Japan’s new envoy to the Philippines.

Ambassador Takeuchi succeeded Ambassador Ozamu Ilagaki who was re-assigned to his home office a couple of months ago.

Present at the presentation ceremonies held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall were members of the cabinet headed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez.

Following the ceremonies, the President received Ambassadors John Mansfield Addis of Great Britain and T. W. Cutts of Australia, who paid him courtesy calls.

Ambassador Addis is leaving at the end of the week for a three-month home leave, while Ambassador Cutts arrived recently from Australia

Early in the evening the President presided over a meeting of his Cabinet.

President Macapagal was back in Malacañang at 9:15 a.m. today after a three-day tour of remote towns in Cagayan.

The President landed at the base operations in Nichols Field shortly before 9 o’clock this morning aboard PAF plane from Bagabag Airport in Nueva Vizcaya.

Upon arrival at Malacañang the President attended to some urgent state papers and then tendered a luncheon for the members of the San Francisco Business Development Mission headed by San Francisco Mayor John F. Shelley who arrived yesterday for a four-day stay.

The mission was formed at the instance and suggestion of President Macapagal when he was in the United States. The members of the Mission present were William E. Dauer, executive vice-president of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce; John S. Dunnet, president of the N.V. Friedman & Co.; William F. Gates, president of the Dalmo-

Victor Company; Wayne E. Matechullet of the Sears, Roebuck & Co.; Albert E. Schelesinger, president of the San Francisco Convention & Visitors Bureau; Sam J. Sherer of the United Air Lines; Walter H. Shorenstein, President of the Milton Meyer & Co.; Ian G. Thompson, president of the Chartered Bank of London; Barry Wasserman, vice-president of John S. Bolles Associates; and Messrs. Charles Gray, Boone and Gregg.

Also present were American Ambassador William McCormick Blair. Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda, Executive Secretary Ramon Diaz and PIA Director-General Armand Fabella.

**February 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal received this morning Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Maria Castiella and the members of his party who arrived last night for a week-long official visit here, together with the Marques and Marquesa de Villaverde.

During his official call on the President, the Spanish foreign minister transmitted to the Chief Executive a personal message from Generalissimo Francisco Franco.

In their talks, the President and the foreign minister stressed that, considering the strong historical link between the Philippines and Spain, there is need now more than ever to further strengthen the ties between the two countries in the face of the tense world situation.

The President and the Spanish minister expressed the belief that everything could be gained by being close together.

The President said the close relations between Spain and the Philippines were bound to grow stronger because the Spanish culture has become an integral part of Philippine culture.

During his call, Minister Castiella presented the Chief Executive with a replica of a Spanish galleon used during the Manila-Acapulco trade which was beautifully and intricately designed in silver. Accompanying Minister Castiella in his call on the President was Secretary of Foreign Affairs Mauro Mendez.

After the call of the Spanish visitors, the President met with members of Congress headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal on matters of legislation. He later conferred with the congressmen on matters affecting their respective districts, such as public works projects and local appointments.

The President had a brief rest after a late lunch and then received municipal mayors and barrio captains from 2 to 5 p.m.

During the reception for the municipal and barrio officials, the President administered the oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party to former Rep. Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte. Venida was accompanied to Malacañang by Camarines Norte Gov. Wenceslao Vinzons, Jr., Rep. Marcial Pimentel, and a group of ward leaders.

At 5 p.m., the President excused himself from some of the municipal and barrio officials he was not able to receive to go with the First Lady, to Pasong Tamo in Makati, Rizal where they were guests of honor at the inauguration of the Universal Motors Corporation building.

In the evening the President attended the Fiesta *Filipino*, tendered by the First Lady in Malacañang in honor of the Marquesa de Villaverde.

Also in attendance were Minister Castiella and members of his mission.

**February 26.**—COMMON MAN'S DAY" in Malacañang today saw President Macapagal attending to the problems of some 4,440 callers and the First Lady standing sponsor at the baptism of 67 children.

Among the problems brought to the President were requests for release of public lands for contribution to occupants, funds for community projects, pardons and paroles, immediate payment of backpay claims, medical assistance, relocation of squatter and loans for home industries.

Among the callers was Luciano Maliwat of Sta. Cruz, Manila, who sought the recovery of the body of his father-in-law who died in a motor accident last February 9 and was allegedly buried by city authorities at the South Cemetery without the knowledge of the dead man's family.

A group of young female students from Feati University also came to request for the President's autograph.

At about 10 a.m., a large group of mothers came to have their children baptized with Mrs. Macapagal as sponsor. The baptismal ceremonies were held at the Community Chapel at the Malacañang Park across the Pasig River, with Fr. Dominador de Vera of the Philippine Constabulary officiating. The children range in age from one month to 10 years and some came from as far as Agusan.

Among the 26 delegations that the President saw were Nacionalista municipal and barrio officials who took their oath of affiliation with the Liberal Party before the President.

The new affiliates were Councilor Ismael Kasing, Sultan Goregar Lantong and Dodong de Gracia of Balei, Lanao del Norte; and Barrio Captain Leoncio Aviola and Councilmen Francisco Glory, Eligio Balduisa, Teonlo Losterio, Basilia Luce, Ignacio Glory, Angel Ayala, Lazaro Tenamisan, and Cornelio Lusterio of Alupay, Pagbilao, Quezon.

During the reception, the President signed into law two school bills for Iloilo enacted by Congress in the current session.

Before attending to the general public, the President had a breakfast conference with Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun and Cotabato Governor Udtog Natalam on the forthcoming Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca.

Matalam asked the President's permission to lead the pilgrimage this year

Following the "Common Man's Day" reception which lasted from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., the President received members of the League of Municipal Judges of the Philippines whose officers for 1965 he inducted.

Later the President motored to Ayala Avenue, Makati, Rizal where he was guest of honor at the formal opening of the representative office of Chemical Bank New York Trust Company.

The President was scheduled to motor to Abra late in the evening for a two-day tour of the province.

**February 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal today inaugurated several major public works projects and inspected others in Abra province.

Formally opened by the Chief Executive were the Pidigan waterworks system, and the Court of First Instance and Philippine National Red Cross buildings in this provincial capital.

The President also inspected work on the P2.5 million Abra Irrigation System which, when completed, will irrigate 1,800 hectares or arable land in Pidigan, Tayum, and this town.

Upon being told that the irrigation project will take six more months to build because of the digging of a six-kilometer canal from the river bank which will cost P1 million, the President released funds for the purchase of a propeller type pump so that the land could be irrigated as soon as possible;



Meanwhile, in speeches before huge crowds which met him in the different places he visited, the President was roundly applauded as he explained in fluent Ilocano the handicap of overcoming Nacionalista obstructions and reiterated his determination to carry on his fight against poverty, as long as he is in office.

Rep. Lucas Paredes who, together with Gov. Carmelo Barbero, accompanied the President in his tour, belied Sen. Marcos' charge that the President had diverted P40 million of the PVTA funds for campaign purposes.

Rep. Paredes said his family is committed to support the President's re-election and pledged that Abra will give him the biggest majority yet because they believe in his sincerity of purpose to help the masses.

The President was met at the provincial boundary by a large delegation led by Rep. Paredes and Gov. Barbero.

At Pidigan, the President heard *Te Deum*, sung by Fr. Alberto Van Leeven, before inaugurating the P70,000 waterworks system.

After addressing a mammoth crowd, the Chief Executive motored to Tayum to inspect the irrigation project there and to speak before another mass rally.

In welcoming the President, Mayor Ludovico Anim told him "his town mates will always bear you in their hearts because they know your victory is a victory for the poor and the downtrodden."

From Tayum the President proceeded south to the remote town of San Isidro, then returned to Bangued for the inauguration of the Court of First Instance and Philippine National Red Cross buildings, and the rally at the Bagued high school compound.

In the evening the President had a dinner-conference with political, civic, religious, and business leaders and attended a reception given by the local officials in his honor at the municipal auditorium.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: February 28 - March 6, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**February 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal this morning flew by helicopter 44 to picturesque Manabo where he set off this afternoon for Bucay, south of Bangued.

He might again extend his visit till Wednesday because he wants to look into the needs of all the towns here.

Talking with newsmen, the President also said he had already sent to the Commission on Appointments the list of appointments, thereby answering Sen. Ganzon's charge.

He had no comment "at this stage" on Nixon's proposal for the sending of Filipino guerrillas to Vietnam.

He also dismissed Sen. Marcos' assassination charge with the remark that Vicente Villafranca had already answered and commented on it.

President Macapagal today issued a proclamation declaring Tuesday, March 9, a special public holiday in Batangas province and Lipa City.

The President issued the proclamation in order to give the people of the province and city a full opportunity to celebrate the 74th birthday anniversary of the late Dr. Jose P. Laurel with appropriate ceremonies.

**March 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returned to Manila tonight after a three-day tour of this province which saw him motoring over dusty roads and flying by helicopter to the remotest communities to observe living conditions in these hitherto neglected areas.

Winding up his tour of the province, the President today visited the towns of Villaviciosa, La Paz, Pilar, Lagayan, Danglas, Langiden and San Quintin.

Notwithstanding the fact that most of the towns received notice of his coming only last night and early this morning due to poor communications facilities, the President received big turnouts of jostling welcomers.

Shouts "Agbiag ni Presidente," (long live the President) greeted the President as he emerged from the aircraft.

The crowds followed him through his stopover until he reboarded the helicopter, to give him warm sendoffs, of "Umay Kay tumanen, Apo Presidente, (Come again, Mr. President.)"

The President was repeatedly interrupted in his speeches as he explained in fluent Ilocano the difficulties he has had to overcome in his fight for the welfare of the common man.

All the towns he visited pledged their full support to the administration and to the re-election of the President.

During his stay here, the Chief Executive inspected last Saturday the P2.5 million Abra Irrigation System under construction, which will irrigate 1,800 hectares of land, inaugurated several major public works projects like the P70,000 Pidigan Waterworks and the Philippine National Red Cross building here.

He also laid the cornerstone yesterday of the proposed Science Museum and Library building in Manabo.

This afternoon the President officiated at the inauguration of the P35,000 Court of First Instance building and the P20,000 Land Transportation Commission building here.

Meanwhile, the President approved the promotion of 74 field grade officers of the Philippine Air Force upon the recommendation of Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr. and a PAF Selection Board.

Promoted to captain were 52 first lieutenants of the regular force and three first lieutenants of the reserve force on inactive status; and to first lieutenants six second lieutenants of the regular force and 13 second lieutenants to this reserve force on inactive status.

**March 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal devoted the day to working on pending official papers.

He issued proclamations designating the period from March 1 to 7 this year as Workmen's Compensation Week and extending to October 17 this year the period of the New York World's Fair fund drive.

He also issued an executive order requiring certain workers in frontons and Basque pelota games (Jai-Alai) to obtain licenses from the Games and Amusements Board, and sent to the Senate for ratification the treaty banning nuclear weapons tests which the United States, Great Britain, and Russia had signed in Moscow on August 5, 1963.

The President proclaimed Workmen's Compensation Week in order to focus attention on beneficent social legislations designed to protect workers and to make management conscious of labor's rightful compensation

The Philippine government, through the joint undertaking of Filipino private sector and the Department of Commerce, is committed to participate to the World's Fair to such fields as culture, education, art, science, entertainment, commerce and industry.

Meanwhile, the Chief Executive paid glowing tribute to the late Tomas Confesor, former congressman, senator, and cabinet secretary on the occasion of the latter's birth anniversary which the President earlier declared as a special public holiday in Iloilo, the "stormy pterel's" home province.

**March 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal certified to the Court of Industrial

Relations the labor dispute between the National Mines and Allied Workers Union and the ALATCO Transportation Co., Inc., the Bicol Transportation Co. and the Consolidated Auto Lines.

The President also approved the promotion of 42 reserve officers of the armed forces in the inactive status, upon the recommendation of the Department of National Defense.

In certifying the labor dispute to the CIR, the President observed that the transportation companies involved in the strike practically control the entire carrier business in the Bicol region and if the strike is not immediately settled, not only the riding public but also commercial and industrial enterprises in the area will be prejudiced.

Headed by Capt. Tomas Quirino who was elevated to major, AFP officers promoted included 17 first lieutenants who were made captains and 24 second lieutenants who were made first lieutenants.

The President spend most of his time today working on pending state papers.

At noon, he and the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, had lunch with their official guests, Spanish Foreign Minister and Mrs. Fernando Maria Castiella and the Marques and Marquesa de Villaverde.

Later in the afternoon, the President and the First Lady led government officials, members of the diplomatic corps and their ladies, in seeing the official visitors off at the Manila International Airport at the conclusion of their 8-day visit to this country.

**March 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal ordered the immediate deportation and exclusion from the Philippines of two Chinese nationals as undesirable aliens.

Ordered deported to China or Formosa were Ty Teck and Kho Bian Seng who had been found guilty of crimes ranging from theft to violations of the anti-narcotics law.

President Macapagal received at Malacañang former Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi of Japan who paid him a courtesy call following his arrival yesterday afternoon for a five-day goodwill visit.

The President, however, had to cut short the call because a swollen tooth bothered him.

Upon the advice of his physician and dentist, the President cancelled his scheduled afternoon and evening engagements.

As a result, the President was unable to induct the newly-elected officers of the Press Photographers of the Philippines in the afternoon and attend the annual Gridiron Night of the National Press Club of the Philippines in the evening.

This morning, the President spent part of his time working on official papers.

He issued a proclamation declaring 1965 as International Cooperation Year and creating a National Committee charged with its proper observance.

The United Nations General Assembly had adopted a resolution in November 1963 designating 1965, the 20th year of the United Nations, as International Cooperation Year, and called on all member states to engage in activities in international cooperation.

The President pointed out that the Philippines, being a founding member of the United Nations, had actively participated in and contributed substantially to all activities of international cooperation undertaken by that world body.

With the Secretary of Foreign Affairs as chairman and the Secretary of Education as vice-chairman, the members of the Committee are the Secretaries of Labor, Public Works and Communications, Commerce and Industry, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Health; Social Welfare Administrator, chairman of the UNESCO national commission, president of the UNAP and Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities, and the Assistant Secretary for UN Affairs and International Conferences.

**March 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sychangco to release P250,000 for the immediate installation of a water supply system in the four tenement housing projects in Manila and the suburbs.

The President issued the directive after he was informed at a Cabinet meeting that except for the installation of the water system, the three projects were ready for occupancy.

The President also directed the Social Welfare Administration to speed up the screening of prospective occupants of the three projects located in Vitas, Tondo, Punta, Sta. Ana and near Fort Bonifacio. He said that top priority should be given to the poorest among the applicants and that rental rates should be nominal.

Excluding the installation of the water systems, the three projects cost the government P13 million. The fourth, located at the National Development Company compound in Sta. Mesa is still under construction.

During the meeting, the President reiterated that the proposed graduated scale of monthly rental rates which are already among the lowest in the world be further reduced. He said rentals of these dwellings intended for the poor should be within the reach of the poorest families.

Upon orders of the President, relief supplies for the fire victims in Catarman, Samar kept arriving in the disaster area by air force planes and navy ships. The Chief Executive previously sent P20,000 as initial aid to the sufferers.

Located at the northern coast of Samar, Catarman had been leveled by fire on March 1 with damage to property estimated at P10 million. More than 10,000 persons were rendered homeless.

The President issued a proclamation declaring April 18 to 24, this year, as Accountancy Week.

He also submitted to the Senate for its concurrence the International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency which seeks to forge a united stand against counterfeiting, by coordinating the activities of governments in suppressing this evil with “simplicity, smoothness and speed.”

**March 6.**—LEADING the nation in mourning the death of Vice-President Chen Cheng of Nationalist China, President Macapagal in a cable sent to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek said that with Chen’s passing “the cause of freedom and justice has lost a stalwart champion.” At the same time the President and the First Lady, dispatched personal cablegrams of condolence to Madame Chen.

At Malacañang, the President received Mayor Antonio J. Villegas of Manila who reported on his initial inquiries into the operations of the Philippine National Bank. He invited the mayor to appear at the next Cabinet Meeting to render a more complete report.

Earlier, the President conferred with Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr. of Cebu City on preparations for the forthcoming observance of the Fourth Centenary of Christianization of the Philippines.

The President also received Mexican Ambassador and Mrs. Jose Muñoz Zapata who called to bid farewell prior to his return for reassignment in the home office; PAGCOM Chairman Cesar Climaco and a large delegation of mayors from Davao who witnessed the induction by the President of six mayors of newly-created municipalities in the province, namely Mariano Bautista of Sta. Maria, D.M. Magabilen of Kiblawan E. Benignos of Maco P. Tecala of Magsaysay, P. Amatong of New Carella and H. Somosza of Roxas. Also inducted were the vice-mayors and councilors of the new towns.

The President left this afternoon for an eighty-day tour of Palawan Antique, Masbate and Samar.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines.**

**President's Week in Review: March 7-20, 1965**

## **President's Week in Review: March 21-27, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**March 21.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal ends his two-day annual spiritual retreat at the Sunnyside retreat house in Baguio City at 6 p.m.

Upon leaving the retreat house, the Chief Executive proceeded direct to the Presidential Mansion where the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, gives a dinner in honor of the retreatants.

Among the retreatants at the Mansion dinner are Senators Francisco Rodrigo, Estanislao Fernandez and Lorenzo Tañada, former Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Rep. Dominador Tan of Leyte, Civil Aeronautics Administrator Vicente Rivera Jr., Bulacan Governor Jose Villarama and NACEDA Bank president Teofilo Reyes Sr.

Meanwhile, the President exhorts labor unions to exercise "reasonable restraint" in making their demands upon management lest they kill the "goose that lays the golden eggs."

In a speech read for him by Labor Secretary Jose B. Lingad before the national convention of the Federacion Obrera de la Industria Tabaguera y Otros Trabajadores de Filipinas at the Manila Jockey Club, the Chief Executive says the virtue of self-restraint is an essential attribute of maturity and responsibility rather than a sign of weakness or timidity.

The President observes that labor often insists on some demands that may be immediately beneficial but ultimately detrimental to itself because it is harmful to management.

Inviting attention to what he says is a Common erroneous notion that labor's gain is capital's loss and that whatever capital denies or refuses to concede works to labor's detriment, and vice versa, the President urges that this manner of thinking must be revised.

"We must realize that more often than not, what is good for one is ultimately good for the other," he says. "It is this realization that can considerably clear the path to industrial peace."

**March 22.**—FRESH from a two-day spiritual retreat in Baguio, President Macapagal returns to Manila and plunges into a series of activities topped by his attendance of the Liberal Party executive committee meeting at the "Pangarap" guesthouse at the Malacañang Park in the evening.

From Baguio, the President motors direct to the North Harbor in Manila at 11:20 a.m. where he gives 56 farmer-tenant families from Tayug, Pangasinan a warm send-off as they board an inter-island vessel for Cotabato.

The 56 are the last batch of 121 tenant families displaced by a Supreme Court order ejecting them from the El Porvenir estate in Tayug, Pangasinan upon its conversion to mechanized farming. To be resettled under the administration's land reform program, the families will be allotted six to ten hectares of land, work animals, farm implements, subsistence and other prime necessities for the first four years, after which they will start paying back the government, including their expenses for transportation.

From the pier, the President proceeds to the Manila Hotel where He addresses the opening plenary session of the 18th annual national convention of the Provincial, City and Municipal Treasurers and Assessors Association of the Philippines (PACTAA). After his speech, the President is presented with a scroll of appreciation for the "sincere and solicitous concern he has demonstrated in his love for the common man by his bold program of massive rice importation to save the country from hunger despite bitter partisan opposition."

Following a brief rest, the Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, motors at 2:45 p.m. for Fort Bonifacio, Rizal where he is guest of honor and speaker at the 68th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Army.

In his speech, the President warns the military against letting down their guard against unseen foes such as “complacency and apathy, intellectual timidity and sterility, insidious corruption, inordinate greed and unbridled ambition and immature leadership which continue to assail the soldier in the relative quiet of peace.”

After the anniversary rites, the President and the First Lady proceed to the Delta Manufacturing Corporation in Pasig, Rizal where they are guests of honor at the inauguration of the multi-million pesos firm, the first fully-integrated meat processing plant in the Far East.

During the program, Francisco Ortigas Jr., president and board chairman of the company presents the President with a plaque of appreciation for officiating at the plant’s inauguration “which is a tangible testimonial to his socio-economic program and his administration’s policy of giving discriminating assistance to deserving industries.” The First Lady officiates at the unveiling of the firm’s inaugural marker.

Back in Malacañang, the Chief Executive receives from Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz a summary report of administrative cases filed against civil service employees in pursuance of the continuing drive against venalities in the government. The report, which covers 39 government offices and government-owned or controlled corporations since the Administration took over in January, 1962, states that of 602 cases filed, there were 271 convictions and 89 exonerations, while 243 cases were still pending.

Meantime, President Macapagal expresses shock over the sudden death of former Speaker Daniel Romualdez, who was among those with whom the the President spent his annual two-day Lenten retreat at Sunnyside Villa and one of the guests at dinner given by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, at the Presidential Mansion in Baguio, after the retreat. The Leyte solon died of cerebral thrombosis at the Notre Dame Hospital in Baguio early in the morning.

**March 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal receives the credentials of Ambassador Ivar Melhuus of Norway as new envoy to the Philippines, during presentation ceremonies at Malacañang. The new Norwegian diplomat succeeds Ambassador Ditlef Knudsen.

After the presentation ceremonies, the President welcomes Gen. Juan-Sheng, commander-in-chief of the Nationalist Chinese Air Force, who is on a visit to this country. The Chinese military brass is accompanied to Malacañang by Ambassador Han Li-Wu, Colonel Lu Mao-Yan of the local Chinese embassy and retired general turned painter, Gen. Yeh Tsui-Pai. Gen. Juan-Sheng extended to the President and the people of the Philippines the personal regards of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek.

Earlier in the morning, the Chief Executive receives Joseph Dear, president of the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., who pays him his courtesies. Dear arrived recently for a four-day visit. He was accompanied to Malacañang by Nereo Andolong of the *Manila Chronicle*, president of the National Press Club of the Philippines.

In the afternoon, the Chief Executive presides over a meeting of his Cabinet following a dinner-reception given in honor of the Asian Editors. During the meeting, the President, upon the request of Defense Secretary Macario Peralta Jr., orders the release of necessary funds for the intensification of the anti-smuggling campaign. Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova also reports to the Cabinet on steps being taken at the Customs Commission to curb technical smuggling, which is reportedly one of the principal causes of the drop in revenue collections.

At 10 p.m., the President leaves on a seven-day tour of hinterland towns of Mountain Province.

**March 24.**—ARRIVING inTuguegarao, Cagayan in the morning, President Macapagal takes off by helicopter for several areas in hinterlands of Mountain Province.



Before boarding the helicopter, the President signs a proclamation declaring Friday, April 2 a special public holiday in Bulacan and Bataan provinces. April 2nd marks the 177th birth anniversary of Francisco (Balagtas) Baltazar, the prince of Filipino poets. He was born in Bulacan but lived until his death in Bataan.

At the same time, the Chief Executive names Tito Mijares as Director of the Bureau of Census and Statistics. Mijares, who hails from Iloilo City, takes the place vacated by Director Manuel Buenafe who died on November 1, 1963.

**March 25.**—ON second day of his tour of Mountain Province, President Macapagal arrives in Bontoc and immediately confers with the local officials of at least four towns. He addresses huge rallies in Besao, Mayoyao and Bauko, where he is applauded time and again as he speaks in the native Ilocano dialect.

After spending the night in Sagada, the Chief Executive leaves by car in the morning for Besao to address a big rally. From Besao he proceeds to Bontoc where he boards a helicopter for Mayoyao.

After a brief interview with the Manila newspapermen, the President boards his car for Bauko, arriving there at 3:50 p.m. The President addresses a mammoth rally. He stays over night in Tadian. He is scheduled to visit Abatan and Atok the following day before proceeding to Baguio City to fulfill a speaking engagement.

**March 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal signs into law three bills, including one providing for amendments to the Internal Auditing Act of 1962. The other two measures converts the Eastern Pangasinan Agricultural High School into an Agricultural College and the Pototan General Hospital in Iloilo into a national hospital to be known as the Doña Trinidad Memorial National Hospital.

En route to Buguias, the first stopover in his tour of remote towns of Mt. Province, the President receives a report on the urgent need for an anti-tetanus vaccine to save the life of a dying boy. The President immediately orders the department of health to dispatch the vaccine to the provincial hospital in Bontoc. The urgently needed vaccine is air-dropped at Bontoc in the afternoon.

Arriving at the Presidential Mansion at 5:30 p.m. from Atok, the Chief Executive resumes work on state papers until late into the night.

**March 27.**—IN Baguio City, President Macapagal continues work on state papers he has brought along from Manila as he takes time out from his tour of Mt. Province. The Chief Executive has covered during his three-day inspection tour, 11 inland towns in the sub-provinces of Apayao, Bontoc, Ifugao and Benguet.

Originally scheduled to meet with his cabinet at the Presidential Mansion, the President instead receives at the Presidential Mansion some visiting foreign correspondents and radiomen as well as Manila newspapermen covering him.

They include Ray Steinbert of *Fortune Magazine*, Peter Polomka of the *Bangkok Post*, F. Starnier of *Far East Economic Review*, Peter Kalischer of *Columbia Broadcasting*, Katsube Kawatake and Matsumoto of *NHK* (Japan Radio), Amante Bigornia of the *Manila Daily Bulletin*, Francisco de Leon of the *Manila Chronicle*, Manuel Salak of the *Manila Times*, and Esperanto Curaming of the *Philippines Herald*.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: March 28- April 3, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**March 28.**—AT Baguio City President Macapagal orders national police agencies to submit a report on mounting cases of newsmen being threatened “in order to see what action is necessary to safeguard newsmen from intimidation.”

The President's order is dispatched to Acting Executive Secretary Ignacio Santos Diaz in Manila following reports about goons firing guns at the Philippines Herald premises and of phone calls to newsmen threatening bodily harm to themselves or their relatives if they did not “watch out.”

Acting on a recommendation of Justice Secretary Salvador L. Marino, the Chief Executive approves the appointment of 19 judges of the Court of First Instance, the new presiding judge of the Court of Tax Appeals and two judges of the Court of Agrarian Relations.

Later in the afternoon, the President receives a message from Gov. Alfredo Lamen of Mt. Province acknowledging receipt of 20,000 units of anti-tetanus vaccines airlifted to Bontoc and thanking him for the prompt action he had taken to help save the life of a dying boy.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal enjoins new graduates of the Philippine Military Academy to show moral courage and an unshakable faith in their ability to help build a better Philippines.

In a speech during the commencement exercises at Fort Del Pilar, the President officially commissions the 57 PMA graduates, 42 to the rank of second lieutenants without specification as to branch of service and 15 as ensigns in the Philippine Navy.

Addressing the graduates, the President asserts that, as commissioned officers, they will be faced with the continuing fight against subversion, smuggling, corruption and the various blandishments of an immoral life, and that their four-year training to become officers and gentlemen will be put to a severe test.

The Chief Executive warns that the present-day world is full of pitfalls and pregnant with temptations, and their ability to succeed lay in the kind of faith that will sustain them and the kind of courage they can summon to strengthen them.

**March 29.**—STILL in Baguio, President Macapagal signs the appointments of 22 fiscals, clerks of court, municipal judges and one provincial treasurer. He also names Ambassador to Italy Manuel A. Adeva and Bienvenido Villavicencio of the National Economic Council as delegate, respectively, to the 7th session of the inter-governmental committee of the World Food Program in Rome from March 31 to April 14, this year.

Earlier in the morning, the Chief Executive urges government graft-busters and agency heads to exert “greater efforts” and be “more relentless” in pushing through the administration's moral regeneration drive among government employees. He issues the injunction shortly after he receives a consolidated report signed by Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz on the progress of the administration's campaign to insure the high morality of government employees.

The report, which is a compilation of administrative cases filed against erring government employees either by investigative agencies or heads of government offices since 1962, states that of 603 cases—271 resulted in convictions and 89 in exonerations, with 243 still pending decision and five on appeal. The cases range from falsification in the accomplishment of time records to dishonesty and anomalies in the grant of salary loans.

**March 30.** —PRESIDENT Macapagal concludes his seven-day visit to the Mountain Province heartened by the spontaneous receptions accorded him wherever he went.

At the conclusion of his tour of the province, the Chief Executive visits three more hinterland municipalities in the second congressional district, namely, Kabayan, Bukod and Tuba.

At the same time, the President forwards to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation the appointments of a city chief of police, a city treasurer and two provincial treasurers. He also designates a Camarines Sur provincial treasurer who is on special detail with the Department of Finance, as acting provincial treasurer of Samar.

**March 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returns to Manila at 11 a.m. from a seven-day visit to Baguio City and isolated towns of Mountain Province.

From Malacañang, the President forwards to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation the appointment papers of 31 local officials. He also designates Lucas Bermejo as Councilor of Sipocot, Camarines Sur and Escolastico Bonete, officer-in-charge of the Office of the Provincial Auditor of Lanao del Sur, as acting Chairman of the Board of Assessment Appeals of that province.

The appointments forwarded to the Commission on Appointments include a provincial register of deeds, one municipal mayor, two vice mayors, one municipal judge, one chief of a city fire department, 14 councilors, and a chairman and 10 members of various board of Assessment appeals.

In the afternoon, the Chief Executive confers the Order of the Golden Heart award on Gov. Jose C. Aquino of Agusan during rites at the Malacañang ceremonial hall. Gov. Aquino is cited for his noble deeds in contributing to the social, economic and spiritual amelioration and improvement of his province.

Earlier, the President receives Senator Lorenzo Sumulong who calls to deliver a gift to the President from President Zalman Shazar of Israel. Sen. Sumulong was in Israel last Month. President Shazar's gift is a leather-bound, newly-printed Bible in English and Hebrew with beautiful colored illustrations. The Holy Book bears a dedication from the Israel chief of state.

After receiving callers, the Chief Executive presides over a meeting of his Cabinet during which he underscores the need for intensifying food production efforts on a nationwide scale.

The President, upon the recommendation of the Cabinet, creates a National Food Production Council to oversee the crash program of food production. The council is headed by an outstanding private agriculturist and has as members the secretaries of agriculture, education and national defense, and the director-general of the Program Implementation Agency. The council aims to drum up public support and participation in the nationwide effort to increase food production.

In the evening, after the Cabinet meeting, the President also presides over a conference of the Liberal Party executive committee at the "Pangarap" guesthouse at the Malacañang Park.

**April 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal confers the Military Merit Medal on Lt. Cdr. Rolando N. Kagaoan for "meritorious achievement and outstanding performance" as commanding officer of the RPS Leyte, in the drive against smuggling.

The Chief Executive presents the Medal in ceremonies held at the Philippine Navy headquarters on Roxas Boulevard in the morning prior to his departure for the Visayas.

In awarding the Medal, the President says that "such splendid accomplishment is a distinct manifestation of the awardee's unflinching sense of integrity, exemplary leadership, professional competence and devotion to duty which are in keeping with the best traditions of the Philippine Navy."

**April 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal gets a rousing reception from the people of San Antonio, a northwestern island town off Samar, upon his arrival there in the afternoon. As the presidential ship "RPS 21" approaches the island, a

fleet of motorized bancas loaded with town officials and islanders in their Sunday best sails out to meet the President.

After inspecting the island municipality, the Chief Executive informs the local officials in the conference that he is determined more than ever to fight poverty and with their help, he says, he knows he will succeed. The President earlier heard a Te Deum sung by Fr. Froilan Monsanto, a local Catholic priest.

Meanwhile, the President leads the nation in paying tribute to Francisco (Balagtas) Baltazar, the Prince of Filipino poets, on the occasion of Baltazar's 177th birth anniversary.

In a message he issued on this day, the Chief Executive notes that the name of Francisco Baltazar, nationally known as Balagtas, is an immortal name. He says that Balagtas was the "first among his countrymen to give tongue to their voiceless aspirations."

"His deathless 'Florante at Laura' contains numerous nuggets of golden thoughts and morals which we, in this day and age, would do well to remember" he says.

"His voice was the lone voice of the poet singing in the wilderness— but now the wilderness has flowered because of that voice," the President concludes.

**April 3.**—FOR the first time in its history, an island municipality west of Samar is honored by a presidential visit as President Macapagal steps ashore in Almagro at 8:30 a.m. today.

A group of terno-attired ladies presents the President with a "calachuchi" garland, while the rest of the crowd applauded and shouted "Mabuhay."

En route to Palapag, Samar in the evening, the Chief Executive extends executive clemency to 14 convicts upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole. The President signs the pardon papers of eight convicts and the commutation of sentences of six others as he works on state papers on board the "RPS 21."

*Source:* **National Library**

**President's Week in Review: April 4-24, 1965**

## President's Week in Review: April 25 - May 1, 1965

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**April 25.**—DISEMBARKING in Abulog, Cagayan from the presidential ship *RPS "21"* at 6. a.m., President Macapagal immediately takes a hazardous thrust into the heart of the province.

With only a skeletal staff and two security men accompanying him, the President uses a fiberglass boat, weapons carrier and a native flat-bottomed dugout to negotiate the 100-kilometer trip from this town to Kabugao, principal town of an unexplored part of Mt. Province.

Arriving in Kabugao, the President sees how isolated the town is, despite its being a capital; he forthwith orders Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad to complete at the earliest possible time a 50-kilometer road which would link it with Conner, a town farther south. The completion of the Kabugao-Conner road will enable Kabugao residents to go to Bontoc from Conner and thence to any point in the Mountain Province.

After addressing the people and conferring with local officials, the President reboards a canoe despite pleadings of local officials for him to stay overnight in the town due to the risks involved in negotiating the Abulog river nighttime.

The Chief Executive is back at the ship past nine p.m.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal receives a cablegram from Archbishop Makarios, President of the Republic of Cyprus, conveying "warm congratulations and best wishes" on the occasion of the observance of the 400th anniversary of the Christianization of the Philippines.

"Long distances separate our two countries," President Makarios says in his message. "We are, however, united by the faith in common ideals, especially the ideals derived from the faith and high principles of our Christian religion."

The Cyprus President states that the Cross which had been planted by Magellan in 1521 had been an eternal landmark in the history of the Philippines.

He adds that this country had since passed through "many adventures and trials" and that today it enjoys freedom and firmly marches on the road to progress.

"I pray to the Almighty that He may bless all the noble efforts of the people of the Philippines," President Makarios concludes.

**April 26.**— A BOARD the presidential ship *RPS "21"*, en route to Poro Point, La Union from Abulog, Cagayan, President Macapagal orders the outright suspension of the provincial fiscal and assistant provincial fiscal of Laguna who had been accused administratively of consorting with smugglers. Ordered suspended are Fiscal Juan Salazar and Assistant Fiscal Eliezer Tengco. The suspension order was contained in a wire dispatched from the ship to Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz.

The administrative charges filed against the two fiscals consisted of gross misconduct, dishonesty and neglect amounting to dereliction of duty.

The Chief Executive likewise orders the immediate temporary cancellation of all timber licenses for areas in the vicinity of the Angat watershed in Bulacan.

The President issues the directive at the instance of Senator Francisco Rodrigo and Bulacan Governor Jose Villarama, aimed at safeguarding the vital Angat watershed from illegal loggers. He also wires Secretary Ramon Diaz to instruct: 1) Forestry Director Apolonio Rivera to increase the number of forest guards in Angat and to assign

to these guards definite areas for which they would be held responsible for any illegal cutting; and 2) the Armed Forces of the Philippines to dispatch enough soldiers to the area to coordinate with Gov. Villarama in policing the watershed.

**April 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal receives another list of recent decisions promulgated by the Manila Court of First Instance in pursuance of the continuing fight against graft and corruption, smuggling and other crimes. Of the five decisions rendered, four are for convictions—one for estafa through falsification of public documents, one for smuggling blue seal cigarettes, and two are for robbery.

Disembarking in Poro Point from the *RPS “21”* a little past noon, the President motors direct to Nichols Air Base where he boards the presidential plane “Common Man” for Cebu City to attend the opening of the quadri-centennial celebration of the Christianization of the Philippines.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal arrives in Cebu at 3:30 p.m. and proceeds immediately to the Normal College on Jones Avenue to open a Cultural-Religious Exhibit.

After attending a private dinner at the Archbishop Palace, the President boards a ship at 8:10 p.m. for Manila.

**April 28.**—ON board the *RPS “Ifugao”* en route to Manila, President Macapagal confines himself to his cabin where he works undisturbed on a pile of state papers the whole day.

Up so early in the morning, the President buckles down to paper work in the course of which he issues a proclamation extending the special holiday in Cebu City up to April 30.

At the same time, the President certifies to the Court of Industrial Relations the labor dispute of the Maaao Sugar Central in Negros Occidental. He issues the certification following receipt of a report that the Department of Labor had failed to effect an amicable settlement of the strike.

In certifying the labor dispute, the President takes into consideration that the protracted strike in the sugar central would paralyze production and seriously affect national efforts to meet international commitments in sugar exports, besides causing untold hardships on planters, millers and works and their families.

The Chief Executive also approves the appointment of Ruben Robles as honorary consul of the Philippines in San Jose, Costa Rica; and the presentation of the Legion of Honor award, degree of Commander, to Generals Curtis E. LeMay and Harold Keith Johnson, Gen. LeMay retired recently as Chief of Staff of the US Air Force, while Gen. Johnson is Chief of Staff of the US Army.

The award to the two American military leaders was recommended by the AFP Chief of Staff and the Secretary of National Defense and concurred in by the Chief Executive’s Military Adviser.

The award is presented to Gen. LeMay for: 1) insuring early delivery of modern jet fighter aircraft under the PI-US Military Assistance Agreement; 2) facilitating the accomplishment of extensive and intensive training programs; and 3) bringing about the sophisticated environment necessary in the operation and employment of air defense weapons system in the Philippines,

On the other hand, Gen. Johnson is cited for: 1) seamlessly dedicating himself to the development of an effective armed organization for the defense of the Philippines; 2) his demonstrated concern for Filipinos during his war-time imprisonment at O’Donnell and Bilibid; and 3) his profound concern for world peace, especially in Southeast Asia.

At noon, the President sends radio message convoking the non-partisan foreign affairs consultative council to a meeting on Friday (May 7) at Malacañang.

**April 29.**—TIRELESS, President Macapagal, arriving in Bauan, Batangas at 8 a.m. from a pilgrimage in Cebu City, motors to Manila and spends the whole day conducting an on-the-spot inspection tour of fire-stricken areas in Claro M. Recto Avenue and F. Barona street in Tondo.

In the course of his visit to fire victims in Tondo, the President directs Social Welfare Administrator Jose O. Pelayo: 1) to make personal representation with a certain lawyer in Pasig, Rizal who, the fire victims say, refused to allow them to reconstruct their houses on the land which the fire sufferers used to occupy; 2) extend all possible government aid to the fire victims, including construction materials; and 3) work out with Councilor Martin Isidro any legal means by which the other fire sufferers could reconstruct their houses in the area.

Before motoring to the fire stricken areas, the President pays a surprise visit at the Philippine National Railways offices in Tutuban to inquire into steps being taken by the firm to improve its services to the riding public.

At the same time, the President receives anew reports from the Department of Justice about six new decisions by the Manila Court of First Instance, in line with the administration's drive against criminality. Of the six decisions handed down, four are for convictions: one simple homicide, two for homicide through reckless imprudence and one for robbery in an inhabited house; one is acquitted of robbery and another robbery case is dismissed on motion of the trial.

**April 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal approves five proposed legislative measures to suppress smuggling activities. He stamps his approval after a thorough discussion of the anti-smuggling drive during a Cabinet meeting over which he presided.

Among the legislative proposals approved by the President are; 1) creation of an anti-smuggling board under the chairmanship of the Secretary of Finance, with the Secretary of National Defense as vice chairman, and the Secretary of Commerce, Tariff Commissioner and two representatives of the private sector, as members; 2) creation of an anti-smuggling unit within the Philippine Navy to be known as Coast Guard; 3) expansion of the jurisdiction of the Tax Court to include all criminal and civil cases arising from violations of the Tariff and Customs Code, and the National Internal Revenue Code, and simultaneously increasing the number of justices from three to six; and 4) reduction of tariffs to discourage smuggling.

In the morning, the Chief Executive receives members of an Argentinian special mission to the Fourth Centennial Celebration of the Christianization of the Philippines who called at Malacañang to present their letters of the credence. The Argentinian mission, accompanied by charge d'affaires of the Argentine embassy, is composed of Jose Noguero Armengol, Undersecretary of Culture and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary; and Monsignor Victorio Bonamin, Titular Bishop of Bitu.

During their call Ambassador Armengol extends the greetings of President Arturo U. Illia of Argentina who also assures the Chief Executive that the mutual ties binding the Philippines and Argentina are stronger and closer than ever.

Meantime, President Macapagal makes known that the government's crash program to provide cheap and dependable electric power in the rural areas is one of the measures taken by the administrative to improve the nation's economy and support the fast growing population of the country.

In a speech read for him by Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad before the 10th Annual Convention of the Electric Plant Owner's Association at the Pines Hotel in Baguio City, the President strongly stresses that the nation can no longer exist on the simple agricultural economy of the plow and carabao.

"Only when cheaper and more dependable electric power and service is made available to the greater bulk of our people and the development of the country's agricultural and industrial resources be exploited to the maximum," the President explains.



“Only when our towns and barrios are provided with light can our country be more progressive and our people happier,” he adds.

The President emphasizes that with electric power, a town easily develops a cottage industry and in some cases, heavy industry often steps in and provides opportunities for employment.

The Chief Executive likewise discloses that surveys made in the period from July 1, 1963 to June 30, 1964 showed that: 1) less than half the towns in the country have electric plants; 2) the 577 towns with electric plants get power for lighting only and that only in the town proper; 3) there are very few plants serving 24 hours, the majority give electric light on a 12 hour basis only; with daylight, the power is shut off; 4) electricity is very expensive in rural areas and even in chartered cities; most of the municipalities and cities with electric systems operates under substandard conditions and consumers are charged at or very near the maximum rate allowed by the Public Service Commission; 5) the greater number of electric plants operating are in Luzon; there is very little electric power available in rural areas where cottage industries are located; and 6) only 20 per cent of the population enjoy the blessings of electricity.

The President bares that the administration is exerting efforts to improve the situation through the Electrification Administration which is charged with the overall program of lighting up the country. He empowered the EA with the broad function of planning, coordinating, programming and supervising electrification systems in the country.

**May 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal addresses one of the biggest Labor Day celebrations at the Luneta. In his address, the President calls upon the Filipino workingman to join hands with management and the government to achieve their common goal of “national progress through individual prosperity.”

The President points out “we feel that we are entitled to declare on this Labor Day 1965 that with the epochal Land Reform Law and the no less vital new Minimum Wage Law, we have shown beyond the pale of doubt we are a true friend of labor not in words but in deeds.”

Reiterating his chief ambition to devote his life to the liberation of the common man from the shackles of want and ignorance, the President points out: “Our crusade, therefore, has been to promote the welfare of the common man on the premise that the well-being of the common man is the beginning and the end of, the Nation’s economic and social progress.”

Toward the end of his speech, the President reminds labor of its responsibilities: “In this your hour of triumph, do not forget that victory has its responsibility. You owe your employers the loyalty of dedication and hard work. Your triumph will be in vain unless your employers benefit from it. Unless you put in a full day’s work for a full day’s pay, the triumph will be futile and transitory.”

“Land Reform and the new minimum wage are a boon which should gratify the whole nation because the strength of our democracy will be preserved only if we make it possible for everyone to enjoy the fullness of freedom in an atmosphere of peace and contentment,” the President concludes.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal also reminds labor of its responsibility to the national objective of increased production, as an equal partner of management.

In a Labor Day message, the President strongly emphasizes that labor was not just a tool, but one of the prime movers of production, and that a country could accomplish little without this important instrument of progress.

“No production is conceivable without labor—but without management, production will be at a standstill. We should, therefore, realize that these two forces are equal partners in the task of production which is the most strategic phase of a country’s economic activity.” the President says.

“My message to laborers to remind it not only of its accepted importance to the health of the economy but also to stress the magnitude of its public responsibility as a partner of Management in the mutual task of development for progress.”

At 4 p.m., the President, the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal board the presidential fokker plane, “*Common Man*” for Cebu City to attend a pontifical solemn mass that will close the celebration of the fourth centennial of the Christianization of the Philippines.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

**President's Week in Review: May 2-8, 1965**

## **President's Week in Review: May 9-15, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**May 9.**—President Macapagal approves the commission in the reserve force of the Armed Forces of two first lieutenants in the Dental Service, one second lieutenant in the Nurses Corps, 11 second lieutenants without specified branch of service, and one Philippine Navy ensign. The President grants the commission upon the recommendation of the Secretary of National Defense and AFP Chief of Staff.

At the same time, the President revokes a provision in the executive order on the carabao slaughter ban, which limits the slaughtering of carabaos to the national slaughter house in Marulas, Valenzuela, Bulacan.

The President takes the action at the instance of Manila Mayor Antonio J. Villegas who sought reconsideration of the provision “in the interest of the people of Manila.” He briefs Mayor Villegas in a city gram that “after looking into the matter further and in consonance with my desire to safeguard the welfare of the people of Manila,” he had decided to scrap the provision and maintain the status quo on the slaughter of carabaos prior to the inclusion of that provision.

The executive order on carabaos was first promulgated by the late President Magsaysay to prevent the indiscriminate slaughtering of carabaos which are indispensable as work animal in the farms. It was extended anew, with the sub-section in question incorporated, upon the recommendation of Animal Industry Director Anacleto Coronel.

In the afternoon, the President makes a quick visit to Lubao, Pampanga to join his townmates in celebrating the annual town fiesta.

Upon arrival in his town, the President proceeds to the town church. where he attends mass. Mayor Estanislao Bernal joins him in the church.

Immediately after the mass, the President makes a brief visits to the residences of some of his townmates and old friends. The Chief Executive is back in Malacanang at 4:20 p.m.

**May 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal virtually pleads Congress to pass this session a law fixing the price at which imported rice is to be sold to the people at no more than P1.00 a ganta.

The Chief Executive also certifies to the necessity of enacting a measure, to be called the Rice and Corn Productivity Act, which would establish a Rice and Corn Development Authority to increase the domestic production of these cereals.

In asking Congress to set the selling price of imported rice at no more than P1.00, the President express the opinion that the present selling price of P1.30 a ganta “was still high” find flight not meet the “objective of averting hardship or hunger among the bulk of our population.”

The President's move to ask for a price-fixing law is brought about by a Manila Court order penned by Judge Jesus Morfe who ruled that the Rice and Corn Administration cannot sell rice at P1.30 and suggested instead that Congress be asked to fix the selling price.

In his message of certification to Congress, the President impresses that “while the aforesaid order will be contested by the Solicitor General, it may be desirable in the people's interest for Congress to consider the suggestion of the judge to enact legislation fixing the price at which the imported rice should be sold.”

The President recalls that the decision to sell at P1.30 a ganta is based on Republic Act No. 3838 which was enacted on recommendations of the bipartisan Council of State, the President believes that P1.30 per ganta is mute high and

might not attain the objective of averting hunger; accordingly in 1903, RCA sold imported rice at P0.80 a ganta,” he explains.

“Considering the programs for self-sufficiency and the incentive given to local palay growers through the subsidized government buying policy, it is the duty of the Government to assure the people of their staple food at a price within their reach. It is in the fulfillment of this duty that the Administration took steps to continue the policy of all previous administrations to import rice to replenish the inadequate local supply. In the fulfillment of this duty, too, we believe that if the price of P0.80 at which imported rice was sold in 1963 is low, P1.30 is also quite high for the common people. It is our conviction that considering all circumstances, imported rice should be sold at not more than P1.00 a ganta. In truth, petitions all over the country have been received asking that the price of rice be made lower than P1.30,” the President concludes his message.

Meantime, the President orders the immediate release of P4 million for the concrete-paving of the road from the Quezon-Camarines Norte boundary to the town of Talabatib in Camarines Norte.

The President issues the directive after a conference with Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad who reported on the progress of the work on the Manila South Road. The road will link the Bicol peninsula to Manila. At the meeting, Secretary Abad reports to the President that at present, the 59-kilometer-long road is impassable except to trucks at a maximum speed of 10 kilometers per hour only. He also reports that the roads from Atimonan through Gumaca, Lopez, Calauag to the Quezon-Camarines Norte boundary had been completed and are now open to traffic under all weather conditions.

The Chief Executive, likewise sends to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation the nominations of five district judges of Courts of First Instance and four regional district judges of the Court of Agrarian Relations. The nominations: Juan Bocar, as district judge of Sixth Judicial District, to preside over the Court of First Instance of Manila, Branch XVI; 2) Honorato B. Masakayan, as district judge of Seventh Judicial District, to preside over the Court of First Instance of Rizal and the cities of Quezon, Pasay and Caloocan, Branch V, with station at Quezon City; 3) Gabriel Dunuan, as district judge of the First Judicial District, to preside over the Court of First Instance of Nueva Vizcaya, Branch II; 4) Carlos Sundiam, as district judge of the Eleventh Judicial District, to preside over the Court of First Instance of Iloilo and the City of Iloilo, Branch II, stationed at Iloilo city; 5) Ignacio Mangosing, district judge of the Thirteenth Judicial District, to preside over the Court of First Instance of Samar and Calbayog City, Branch III, with station at Laoang; 6) Dioscoro Pineda, regional district judge of the Court of Agrarian Relations, Fourth Regional District, Branch III, stationed at Tarlac, Tarlac; 7) Francisco Hernandez, as regional district judge of the Court of Agrarian Relations, Third Regional District, Branch III stationed at Iba, Zambales; 8) Severino de Leon, as regional district judge of the Court of Agrarian Relations, Eleventh Regional District, Branch I, with station at Bacolod city; and 9) Celso Zoleta, as regional district judge of the Court of Agrarian Relations, Tenth Regional District Branch I, stationed at Iloilo City.

In the afternoon, the President receives Mayor Maximo Estrella of Makati who make representations on behalf of families of military personnel in Fort Bonifacio for the release of a portion of the military reservation as residential site for them.

In the evening, the President designates Dr. Isidro Ocampo, former mayor of Guagua, Pampanga, as technical assistant on health matters in the Office of the President.

The President also receives Mrs. Lota Delgado de la Rosa, wife of Philippine Ambassador to Cambodia Rogelio de la Rosa, who delivered a personal message from the ambassador.

**May 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal certifies to the urgency of more important bills as he devotes his time working on official papers.

At the same time, the President submits to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation the nomination of Eufrazio Sandico and Daniel Orbeta as councilors of Lianga, Surigao del Sur. Sandico takes the place of Councilor Mercuria A. Guazon who had resigned, while Orbeta fills that of Councilor Valentin E. Erasga who died recently.

Among the bills are: 1) House Bill No. 13043 which would authorize public school teachers to conduct religious instruction voluntarily in public schools. Certification of the bill followed a speech the President made at the end of the quadricentennial celebration of the Christianization of the Philippines, in Cebu City, in which he vowed to remove all obstacles towards making optional religious instructions as guaranteed by the Constitution “a living and active reality rather than just a dead law;” 2) a bill providing for guarantees and incentives to investments in this country. The measure seeks to invite and encourage investments both foreign and domestic, in order to increase opportunities for employment, raise the standards of living of the people and promote the stability and accelerate the development of the national economy; and 3) an administration bill amending the Indeterminate Sentence Law by incorporating therein the essential requirements for a good parole system.

The Chief Executive also certifies four bills aimed at revitalizing the petroleum research industry in the country. He issues the certification upon recommendation of the Presidential Committee on Petroleum Exploration headed by Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, which conducted a study on ways and means of saving the industry.

These bills are intended to assist the petroleum research industry, which is now on the point of exhaustion but which has yielded the government a treasure of geophysical and other data regarding the country’s underground resources which are considered priceless and of lasting value.

The other bills certified by the President are: 1) Senate Bill No. 635, introduced by Senator Alejandro Almendras, seeking to eliminate the exploration taxes in petroleum concessions; 2) Senate Bill No. 636 filed also by Sen. Almendras, which has been calendared for second reading, seeking to extend the moratorium on work obligations indefinitely until such time that oil is produced in commercial quantities; 3) House Bill No. 15447, introduced by Congressman Luis Hora, seeking ten years to 20 years; and 4) House Bill No. 5617, passed by the House and pending in the Senate, setting up a P10-million petroleum search subsidy, under which the government will put up 50 per cent of the cost per well in the ultimate and most deserving stage of oil exploration—drilling. The fund is to be financed in part from the sale of government bonds by the Central Bank.

In the afternoon, the President and the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, receives Indonesian Ambassador and Mrs. Nazir Dt. Pamontjak who called on them in Malacañang to bid farewell prior to enplaning for Jakarta. He also receives members of the Foundation for Private Education who makes representations for part of the war damage education fund for the foundation.

Later, the President meets with provincial and city officials on various local matters. In the course of the meeting, the President administers the oath of office to Jesus Polminares as acting chairman-general manager of the Philippine Coconut Administration (PHILCOA) in the absence of Chairman Bienvenido Marquez who is attending a FAO conference in Rome. He likewise names Tranquilino Zapanta as councilor of Surigao, Surigao del Norte. Zapanta takes the place of Councilor Felix Peñaranda who died last February.

In the evening, the President presides over a meeting of his Cabinet held at the State Dining Room. At the Defense and the Philippine Constabulary on the peace and order situation, and on the basis of the report, certified to the necessity of enacting a police reform law and other measures which would increase penalties for certain offenses. Among the offenses for which penalties were sought to be raised are smuggling, illegal cutting of timber, dynamite fishing and trade in narcotics.

The President, during the Cabinet meeting, also: hears a report on the status of a number of smuggling cases pending in courts throughout the country and approves the 11 recommendations of PC Chief Flaviano P. Olivares to curtail crime. .

The 11 recommendations are: 1) Coordinated, quick and effective crime reporting and compilation of crime reports by police agencies concerned; 2) Only peace officers shall be allowed to carry firearms outside their residences. Very few exceptions may be allowed, such as treasurers, cashiers, collectors and businessmen while carrying large sum of money; and government agents possessed with quasi-police powers while actually engaged in the performance of duty; 3) stricter censorship of movies, television and radio programs; 4) immediate passage of the proposed Police Bill designed to remove many present ills besetting local police forces; 5) increase police strength

to an approximate ratio of at least one policemen per one thousand inhabitants; (6) tighter controls in the licensing, sale and use of alcoholic liquors, especially in congested and public places, after certain times of the day or night, and on certain ages of persons. Also, a more intensive drive against "moonshiners;" 7) legislation to: *a*— increase penalties for vices etc., *b*—restrictive granting of bail; *c*—more "teeth" to laws against present-day common crimes (especially vs. recidivists), and *d*—consider abuse of position or authority in the commission of crime as a generic aggravating circumstances; 8) prompt investigation, stricter bailing system, strict rules against undue dilatory tactics, avoidance of influential interventions, and quick trials. All these will tend to render due justice and thereby increase, if not truly restore, the faith and confidence of our people in our arms of justice; 9) development of civic-consciousness by: *a*—early training and good environment in the homes, *b*—comprehensive training in schools, *c*—wide-spread campaign by civic and religious groups, *d*—constant appeal through all mass media (television, radio, newspapers, etc.); 10) creation of increased opportunities for gainful employment or occupation; and 11) establishment of more recreational and athletic facilities, especially for the youth.

Meantime, President Macapagal receives two telegrams of thanks. From Lanao del Sur, pilgrims from the province thank him for making available to them the RPS "Misamis Oriental" for their return trip to Iligan City from Zamboanga City. The Muslim pilgrims are on the last leg of their traditional pilgrimage to and from Mecca. Another telegram is from the employees of the Bureau of Soils hailing the President's dismissal of Director Ricardo T. Marfori. The Chief Executive recently found Marfori guilty of serious charges. Marfori's dismissal was recommended by Lorenzo R. Mosqueda, assistant government corporate counsel, who found the soils director guilty of serious misconduct in office, grave abuse of authority and oppression.

**May 12.**—CONFINING himself to his private study at Malacañang, President Macapagal works on official state papers, in the course of which he certifies to Congress the urgency of enacting a bill appropriating P35 million for the NAMARCO with a view to restraining consumer prices of imported milk, canned fish and canned meat.

Then the President holds a series of conferences with 32 congressmen on various matters concerning their respective districts. Led by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal and Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, the congressmen start calling on the President at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

After the meeting with the solons, the President receives (retired) General Jesus Vargas, Secretary-General-elect of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) who called to express his gratitude for the President's having nominated him for the SEATO post. Vargas assures him that he would do his utmost as SEATO Secretary-General.

The Chief Executive also receives from the Department of Justice a partial progress report stating that a total of 374 smuggling cases have been filed in the courts of nine cities and 21 provinces all over the country as of April, 1965. Of the total number, 29 cases resulted in convictions or otherwise were terminated and the remaining 345 were still pending trial, investigation or decision.

Cities in which a total of 94 cases had been filed were Bacolod, Dapitan, Dumaguete, Iloilo, Legaspi, Lucena, Marawi, Ozamis and Zamboanga. A total of 280 cases arising from smuggling had also been filed in the provinces of Aklan, Batangas, Bohol, Bukidnon, Bulacan, Cebu, Cotabato, Davao, Iloilo, Jolo, Laguna, Misamis Occidental, Negros Oriental, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Palawan, Samar, Surigao del Norte, Tarlac, Zambales and Zamboanga del Norte.

Earlier in the evening, the President receives Mayor Jose Torres of Calumpit, Bulacan who seeks immediate aid for the reconstruction of a 12-room elementary school building in his town which was gutted by fire.

The Chief Executive likewise receives a cable from Governor Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank and Chairman Pablo Lorenzo of the Development Bank of the Philippines who are in New York informing him that they had secured loans for the DBP totalling \$40 million from correspondent banks in the United States.

**May 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues an administrative order creating the Philippine panel in the Philippine-U.S. Joint Veterans Commission to take up the Philippine veterans omnibus claim against the U.S. Government amounting to \$860 million.

In his administrative order, the President directs the panel to be guided by the findings of the Cabinet veterans affairs committee in the conduct of its preparatory work in the actual discussions of the Philippine veterans claims.

Among the separate claims consolidated into the omnibus veterans claim are: 1) financial claims of the Philippine army and of the Filipino veterans, \$345,692,233.54; 2) claim for gold devaluation, \$43,000.00; 3) claim of Philippine scouts for differentials in pay under U.S. Public Law of June 16, 1942 (exact figure known only to U.S. government); 4) expenses of Recovered Personnel Division (RPD), \$5,500.000; 5) refund to the Philippine government for the value of individual and organizational equipment and supplies used in originally equipping USAFFE, \$21,653,805.07; 6) claims approved by RPD but later cancelled by the Adjutant General Repository Division (AGRD), \$2,535,000; 7) arrears in pay denied veterans suspended on account of criminal charges, \$1,750,000; and 8) several items regarding deductions made erroneously from arrears in pay, the National Service Insurance, guerrilla pay, and clothing allowances, as well as differential pay of Philippine Scouts.

In the Afternoon, the Chief Executive receives the officers of the Bankers Association of the Philippines led by Manuel J. Marquez, president, who discusses with him certain aspects of the country's economy.

Then the President presides over a meeting of his Cabinet during which are discussed various Administration projects. The meeting, which is the second in a week, is held at the Malacañang State Dining Room starting at past 8 p.m. and ending at 11 p.m.

Upon the recommendation of the Cabinet, the President forwards to Congress a proposed rice and corn subsidy law calling for an annual of P150-million palay and corn farmers.

In his message to Congress, the President says: "While the government has been helping palay and corn farmers by buying their products at a floor price and while both houses of Congress have virtually approved the Rice and Corn Development Authority bill which was recommended by the Executive, the time has come to give the fullest assistance possible to palay and corn farmers by the adoption of a subsidy system similar to the tobacco subsidy law.

"If the State has been subsidizing tobacco, there is greater reason to subsidize the food of the people, namely, rice and corn. It is our conviction that because of the unsatisfactory effort of the government during the last 40 years to attain self-sufficiency in rice and corn, it has become imperative to provide a direct and massive subsidy to the producers of these cereals in order to finally bring into reality the perennial aspirations to attain self-sufficiency."

Salient feature of the bill certified by the President is a provision that would raise the floor price of palay from P16 per cavan, as provided for in the Rice and Corn Development bill, to P18.50 per cavan which the President believes is a more reasonable floor price for palay which could help farmers. The bill also provides for assistance to farmers in the form of fertilizers, insecticides and certified seedlings at subsidized prices as well as tax exemptions where necessary.

**May 14.**—TAKING time out from his crowded schedule studying bills President Macapagal motors to Angat, Bulacan to inspect the destruction which the illegal loggers wrought on the vital watershed.

The President's visit is prompted by the possibility that continued destruction of the watershed might affect Manila's water supply and the multi-million. hydro-electric power plant being built in that area. After his inspection, the President instructs the Constabulary Rangers assigned at the watershed to intensify their drive against illegal loggers.

Earlier, the President, en route to Angat, stops over in the mineral resort town of Pandi and authorizes the release of P145, 000 for the completion of the municipality's projects.

This morning, the Chief Executive wires a message of congratulation to Lieutenant Fermin Francisco of the Philippine Navy and all the other officers and men of the RPS "La Union" for the recent apprehension of 200 cases of "blue seal" cigarettes on Sulu Island in the Sulu archipelago. At the same time, the President receives a report



from Colonel Atanacio T. Chavez, director of the Cabinet Anti-Smuggling Committee support center, stating that there are indications of continued smuggling of Philip pine silver coins, copra and narcotics, in addition to cigarettes, during the month of April. Chavez reports that a National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) anti-narcotics operations recently apprehended a Chinese businessman in Jolo for trafficking in morphine. He adds that a total of 50,304 cartons of smuggled cigarettes worth about half-a-million pesos had been confiscated during the month of April.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal receives messages of appreciation from the people of Laos and Israel for the President's felicitation on the occasion of Laos' Constitution Day and Israel's 17th Independence Day anniversary.

In his message to the Chief Executive, King Srisavang Vatthana of Laos writes: "I wish to express my sincere thanks on behalf of the people of Laos as well as on my own to Your Excellency for your kind message of felicitations sent on the occasion of the Constitution Day of Laos. Your Excellency's good wishes are warmly reciprocated."

President Zalman Shazar of Israel wires from Jerusalem: "It has given me great pleasure to receive the greetings and good wishes which Your Excellency was good enough to send us on your own behalf and on behalf of the people of the Philippines on the occasion of the 17th Independence Day of Israel."

**May 15.**—HAVING but a few more days before the Congress closes its current session, President Macapagal spends anew most of his time studying legislative proposals, as he continues to certify more urgent bills.

Among the bills certified by the President today are: 1) House Bill No. 11672 which seeks to provide a monthly compensation of P120 00 for Barrio Captains; 2) House Bill No. 8687, provides reasonable remuneration to barrio council members and other barrio officials in case of injury to their heirs in case of death while in the performance of their duty; and 3) Senate Bill No. 925, authored by Senator Lorenzo Tañada, prohibiting discrimination in any form in the employment of persons by any person, corporation, firm or association in the country. Certification of the measure followed representations by Sen. Tañada who, in the bill's explanatory note, deplored the fact that "there is no law in the Philippines which permits, all things being equal, favorable treatment to Filipinos as against foreigners on matters of compensation, allowances, privileges, etc."

In the afternoon, the Chief Executive takes time out from studying bills to inspect various parts of the city's fourth congressional district. He leaves the Palace at 4:30 p.m.

During his three-hour long inspection trip, the President stops at the J. Zamora elementary school in Pandacan; the multi-storey government housing project in Junta, Santa Ana; Vito Cruz street to confer with residents of the Ferocaril-Cavite line; and the Assumption Church in Leveriza.

Before an audience, composed mostly of teachers, at the Zamora elementary school, the President bares that he would support Rep. Justo Albert's proposal—reconstruction of the J. Zamora Elementary School's 45-year-old main building which was condemned in 1956; and a government-financed housing project for teachers. He also announces that he would certify a bill to Congress granting free hospitalization for public school teachers.

Returning to Malacañang at 7:30 p.m., the Chief Executive orders the immediate drafting of an administrative measure providing for free hospitalization to all public school teachers in the country.

The draft of the bill is expected to be finalized over the weekend for certification by the President to Congress on Monday. guard the welfare of the people of Manila," he had decided to scrap the

**Source: National Library**

## **President's Week in Review: May 16-22, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**May 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring the period from April 6 to 15, this year, as Thrift Year.

The Chief Executive, in his proclamation, stresses the desirability of drawing the people's attention to the "importance of practising thrift for future security and as a matter of patriotic duty."

The President states further that the successful prosecution of the nation's socio-economic program demands the utilization of the people's savings for the financing of enterprises vital to the economic uplift of the people.

"Capital formation can be effectively attained through a rigorous campaign for savings among our people," the President says.

At the same time, the President makes public, in another proclamation, the supplementary convention on the abolition of slavery, the slave trade and institutions and practices similar to slavery, signed at the United Nations Office in Geneva in 1956.

In making the supplementary convention public, the President states it is "to the end that the same may be observed and fulfilled in good faith by the Republic of the Philippines." The Supplementary Convention's accession was concurred in by the Senate in its Resolution No. 41, adopted May 21, 1964.

In the afternoon, the President and the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, are special guests at the inauguration of the home office at Roxas Boulevard and the terminal at the domestic airport, of Air Manila. The First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbons in the two ceremonies.

Arriving in Malacañang at 6:30 p.m., the First Couple hears mass at the Palace Chapel.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal pays tribute to the heroism of the officers and men who fought under Colonel Agustin Marking to liberate Ipo Dam from the Japanese in 1945.

In a speech read for him by Rep. Lucas Paredes at the unveiling of the marker at the Ipo Dam site commemorating the 20th anniversary of the dam's liberation, the President remarks: "Many of Col. Marking's valiant comrades died here, and with the marker that we unveiled here today, we are acknowledging the debt we owe them, a debt that we the living can never fully repay. The least we can do is to show them that they did not die in vain."

The President points out that just as Col. Marking's men fought for Ipo Dam so that Manila could have water, present-day Filipinos must strive "to give our country the water that it needs to bloom again."

The President also calls on Filipinos to emulate the heroism of the Ipo Dam fighters and enshrine it in their hearts.

"If we do these things, we can water the cause of Philippine progress with our faith and our love, and the Philippines will rise, strong and triumphant, a deathless monument to the men who died here," the President concludes.

**May 17.**—FILIPINOS engaging in cottage industries are assured of full financial backing as President Macapagal orders the release of P500, 000 to the National Cottage Industries Development Authority (NACIDA) bank as its initial operating fund.

The President orders the release of the fund following his meeting with the bank's board headed by Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda at Malacañang.

During the conference, Secretary Balmaceda reported that the bank had already been organized and that with the release of P500.000, it could start operating within a week.

At the same time, the Chief Executive certifies to the necessity of approving House Bill No. 5923 which seeks to cement national primary and secondary- roads throughout the country.

In his message of certification, the President recommends to Congress the passage of an enabling legislation to raise funds for the project, as “collectible revenues under existing laws cannot support more appropriation.

The bill provides for a 12-year program to pave all national primary and secondary roads with Portland cement, with the Secretary of Public Works and Communications preparing the program of work for each congressional district. The Secretary of Public Works is enjoined under the bill to establish equal priorities for concreting roads in each congressional district, and to promulgate rules and regulations as may be required to implement the purposes of the proposed Act.

For financing purposes, the Public Works Secretary is authorized to secure loans from foreign and local banking institutions, to be amortized over a 30-year period, payable from proceeds of pertinent sections of Republic Act No. 917, the balance to be used for such project, un-expended balances of funds appropriated in previous Public Works Acts for the concreting or improvement of national roads as of the effective date of the measure will also be used for the purpose.

The program is estimated to cost the government a total of P1,730,625,000, and considering all funds appropriated under existing laws for the purpose, an additional P40-million is needed annually for the next 12-years.

The President likewise certifies to the urgency of enacting three other measures which are calculated to deter the commission of crimes. These measures are among those discussed by the Cabinet in a recent meeting as deterrents to crime.

The three measures are: 1) a bill amending Article 14 of the Revised Penal Code by increasing two degrees higher the penalty for a crime where in the commission of which, the offender took advantage of his public position; 2) a bill amending Section 26 of Act No. 1780 increasing the penalty for concealing deadly weapons. The bill would hike punishment for this offense from the present six months imprisonment to one year and from the present P500 fine to P1, 000; and 3) a bill which seeks to impose heavy punishment on persons caught illegally cutting or removing timber in public forests.

Under the proposed laws, any person who shall unlawfully cut or gather timber or any other forest products in any public forest without license or, if under license, in violation of the terms thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment of not less than five-years to more than ten-years and by a fine of not less than P500 to more than P10, 000.

Such punishment is in addition to administrative and other penalties and surcharges as may be provided under existing law for such illegal cutting or removal of timber or other forest products.

Meantime, President Macapagal conveys to Pakistani President Mohammed Ayub Khan, the sympathy of the entire Filipino people on the recent cyclone which killed over 10,000 people and left millions homeless in East Pakistan.

**May 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal meets his Cabinet on matters requiring legislative action, one of which is a bill which would set aside P50-million to beef up Philippine military defenses, particularly in Mindanao and Sulu. The bill calls for the training of 20,000 twenty-one-year-old male citizens annually on a five-year crash program and for the establishment of such naval, air or military bases as the Chief Executive may deem necessary.

During the Cabinet meeting, the President also: 1) Orders the drafting of a measure for certification to Congress which would reduce tariff on imported-cigarettes and specific taxes on domestic cigarettes with a view to curbing smuggling of “blue-seals.” The President calls for the drafting of the bill upon learning that the Senate had not

included cigarettes in the Omnibus Tariff Bill which it passed on third reading; 2) Certifies to the necessity of enacting Senate Bill No. 934 which seeks to assist the textile industry by limiting the importation of cotton and rayon textiles, textile articles and their blends, including used clothing and rags, for a period of five years. The move to limit the importation of these articles is prompted by the unduly huge inventory due precisely to excessive importation, legal and illegal, of these textiles; 3) Certifies to the urgency of enacting a bill exempting public school teachers and members of their families from fees charged in government hospitals and charity clinics; and 4) Certifies to the importance of enacting House Bill No. 36 creating out of the province of Davao the provinces of Davao Del Norte, Davao Del Sur and Davao Oriental.

In certifying to the defense bill, the President calls attention to the measure's explanatory note which observed that current developments in Southeast Asia "have taken a turn which calls for reassessment of our defense preparedness."

Immediately following the Cabinet meeting, the President receives provincial and city officials who apprise him on problems of their respective localities. Among the local executives are Governor Pedro Dizon of Bataan, Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Alfredo Lamen of Mountain Province, Jorge Almojuela of Catanduanes, Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte, Eulogio de Guzman of La Union and Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur and Mayor Mario Tagarao of Lucena City.

In the morning the President and the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, receive members of the 23-man Fleet Marine Force Pacific Drum and Bugle Team with station in Hawaii who called to pay their respects.

**May 19.**—SHORTLY before enplaning for Davao City to fulfill a heavy schedule of conferences and speaking engagements, President Macapagal signs two proclamations, one declaring the period of May 30 to June 5, as Rural Banks Week, and the other designating the period from June 1 to July 15, as the 17th annual educational and fund campaign of the Community Chest.

At the same time the President forwards to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation the nominations of 17 foreign affairs officers. They are: Melanio C. Espiritu, Pablo R. Suarez and Ernesto C. Pineda, as foreign affairs officer, Class I, with rank of consul general; Tomas R. Padilla, Salvador G. Zamora, Illuminado G. Torres, Ruperto M. Baliao and Fidel V. Giron, as foreign affairs officer, Class II; Vicente R. Castillo, Mrs. Felicidad B. Gonzalez, Liwayway E. Barican, Rafael A. Gonzalez, Amante R. Manzano, Lucilo A. Purugganan, and Florencio C. Guzon, as foreign affairs officers, Class III; and Jose B. Bolanao and Luis C. Perdices, as foreign affairs officer, Class IV.

In proclaiming May 30 to June 5 as Rural Banks Week, the President cites the valuable contribution of rural banks to the social and economic uplift of the overwhelming majority of the people.

The President issues the proclamation to stress the vital role of rural banks to rural progress and development, and to give due cognizance to the worthy efforts of rural bankers.

In his other proclamation, the President urges on all residents, firms and organizations in Manila, Quezon City, Pasay City, Caloocan City, and the municipalities of Makati, Malabon, Mandaluyong, Navotas, Paranaque and San Juan, Rizal, to support and give generously to the Community Chest to enable it to carry out its welfare services.

The Chief Executive certifies to Congress the necessity of enacting Senate Bill No. 327, introduced by Senator Gaudencio Antonino which would fix maximum salaries of municipal vice-mayors and councilors in lieu of per diems.

The bill provides that the municipal council shall grant a maximum annual salary to the vice-mayor and each councilor, not exceeding: 1) P3, 750 in first-class municipalities; 2) P2.700 in second-class municipalities; 3) P2.400 in third class; 4) P2.200 in fourth-class; 5) P2.000 in fifth-class; 6) 1,800 in sixth-class; and 7) in seventh-class municipalities

The President also bares the composition of the Philippine delegation to the annual conference of the International Labor Organization in Geneva from June 4 to 26, this year. With Ambassador Vicente Albano Pacis as chairman, the delegation is composed of Labor Undersecretary. Onofre Guevara, representing the government, Primitivo Lovina, representing the the employers and Jose Hernandez, representing workers.

The President names Undersecretary of Public Works and Communications Jose Lachica as acting secretary of Public Works and Communications. Lachica will be acting secretary while Secretary of Public Works and Communications Jorge Abad is abroad attending an international conference.

Arriving in Davao City shortly before luncheon, the President addresses the annual convention of the Philippine Medical Association, after which he holds a luncheon-conference with Davao City officials.

In the afternoon the President inaugurates the new branch of the Government Service Insurance System, lays the cornerstone of a proposed Central Bank branch building, and speaks before the graduates of the Mindanao Colleges.

Later in the evening the Chief Executive confers with the officials of the Barrio Federation and the Market Vendors' Association, and inducts the newly elected officers of the Davao Lawyers' Association.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal, in two separate speeches, underscores the important role of modern tradesmen in the task of nation-building and the significance of the opening of the Siain international port in Quezon.

In a speech read for him by NEC chairman Hilarion Henares, Jr. before the Second Filipino Retailers Regional Conference, the President reminds the retailers of their mission "of hastening the day of the achievement of our complete economic emancipation."

The President points out that although they constitute a minority, retailers have contributed much to the business life and healthy economy of the Philippines.

The President cites numerous continuing measures taken in support of Filipino retailers. Among these are the Retail Trade Nationalization Law passed in 1964, and the Filipino Retailers' Fund Law which gave small businessmen and traders financial help and encouragement.

The Chief Executive notes that Congress is now considering the establishment of a Filipino Retailers' Bank which would extend credit and financial assistance needed by Filipinos to compete with aliens who he states "have enormous financial resources at their disposal".

In another speech read for him by OEC Administrator Eleuterio Adevosso at the opening of the Siain Port in Quezon, the President emphasizes the country's need for more ports to step up trade and commerce with other nations.

The President explains that the government had not been remiss in developing new ports as manifested by Republic Act No. 1937 which provides that no less than 19 ports of entry shall be set up in the country. Section 701 of this Act specifically provided that Siain be one of the 19.

According to the President, the decision to build a port at Siain is due not only to the natural advantages within the area but to the realization that it is "both unwise and unrealistic to concentrate all trading activities in the Greater Manila area."

The opening of Siain port, the President concludes, will lead to dispersal of wealth and population which would benefit the people of Quezon.

**May 20.**—EN route to Manila from Davao City, aboard the presidential plane "Common Man", President Macapagal certifies to the urgency of a bill which seeks a better deal for the country's educators, particularly those in private institutions.

House Bill No. 4775 which the President certified seeks to provide a minimum wage and security of tenure for teaching personnel of private schools, colleges and universities.

“Ample guarantees must be assured all those engaged in the teaching profession if we want to upgrade the quality of education in the Philippines,” the President emphasizes.

Other measures certified by the President includes: 1) House Bill No. 4912 which would appropriate the sum of P200,000 annually from the National Treasury as contribution of the national government for the maintenance and operation of the branch of the University of the Philippines in Baguio; 2) House Bill No. 4461 which seeks to change the charter of the Bicol Teacher’s College at Locsin (Daraga), Albay to one similar to that of the Philippine Normal College in Manila; and 3) a bill which would place the exclusive jurisdiction, supervision and administration of watershed reservations of hydro electric projects and plants under the National Power Corporation.

Arriving at Malacañang at 12:40 p.m. from Davao City, the President receives at luncheon a delegation of Leyte officials headed by Board Members Leopoldo E. Petilla and Pedro A. Pacaña who consulted him on local problems.

Following a brief rest after the luncheon which lasted up to 4 p.m., the Chief Executive receives several callers, including Don Manolo Elizalde and Vicente Rafael.

The President also instructs Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz to order the disarming and placing under constabulary control of the entire force of Pililla, Rizal.

The President issues the directive upon being informed that the residents of Pililla are fleeing to Manila to escape bodily harm and harassment by the police force of the town.

The report stated that the residents were being forced by the mayor and the policemen to sell their lands to a multi-million-peso integrated steel firm.

**May 22.**—FOLLOWING closely the development in Congress up to the adjournment *sine die* of its fourth and final session, President Macapagal issues a proclamation calling the law-making body back to a 30-day special session to consider vital measures that has remained unacted upon, including the 1965-1966 national budget.

In the morning, the Chief Executive swears in anew some appointees to the judiciary whose nominations were bypassed by the Commission on Appointments.

In the afternoon, the President motors to the Philippine Normal College on Taft Avenue where he is the guest of honor and speaker at commencement exercises.

In his speech, the President underscores the important task of teachers in moulding the country’s youth.

The President told the teachers: “In the performance of this task, you will be moulding, not just his mind, not just his heart, not just his will or his intellect, but a combination of all these. You will, in other words, be an instrument in the shaping of a human soul.”

The President points out to the teacher-graduates that the child’s mind is soft and pliant and can either be filled with the truth or saturated with heresies and lies.

A teacher’s motives, the President emphasizes, “should be centered on one focal, one all-important objective: the spreading of light, the dispelling of darkness, the eradication of prejudices, the perfection of the human soul.”

As long as teachers realized this, the future of the children of the Philippines would be secure, the President adds.

Besides extending his congratulations and well-wishes to the new teachers, the President pays tribute to the Philippine Normal College as one of the oldest and most prestigious and “certainly, one of the best in the Philippines in the field of teacher training.”

After his speech, the President assists in the presentation of diplomas to the graduates.

Then he motors back to Malacanang and continues working on state

Meantime President Macapagal dispatches to President Ayub Khan of Pakistan his personal sympathy as well as the Filipino nation in connection with the disaster which overtook a Pakistani jetliner on its maiden flight to Cairo, Egypt. Killed in the crash were 121 passengers and crew members.

**May 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal instructs Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz to look into a report that Lino Bocalan, who is facing tax-evasion charges, was given a VIP (Very Important Person) treatment upon his arrival from abroad the other day.

Secretary Diaz, on orders from the President, asks Airport Customs Collector Salvador Mascardo to conduct an inquiry into a published report and to submit his findings as soon as possible. The report stated that Bocalan had arrived the day before aboard a PAL *Sampaguita* jetliner from Hongkong and was allegedly accorded a royal welcome by government authorities at the Manila International Airport. The report also added that Bocalan was able to leave the airport terminal promptly, unlike other foreign and Filipino incoming passengers who are made to wait, in accordance with regular procedure, for inspection of his travel papers by the quarantine, immigration and customs officials at the MIA.

Meantime, the President motors to the Araneta Coliseum in Quezon City to address the opening ceremonies of the 1965 Biennial Conference of the National League of Puericulture Centers. He extolls puericulture centers for the important role they have played in the three-pronged fight against poverty, disease and ignorance.

The President cites “the humanitarian service of the puericulture center as the tangible manifestation of the community’s conscience.”

The Chief Executive commends the educational role played by puericulture centers in dispelling ignorance both among children and their elders.

“As leaders of the community, as teachers of the youth, as builders of the future, your influence in your little circle of humanity is infinite. A small group of dedicated men and women like you have the power to create a progressive future,” the President points out.

The President likewise credits puericulture centers with helping to lower the country’s infant mortality rate from 30 per cent in the old days to six per cent today.

The President stresses, however, that much work still has to be done to give every child born the opportunity to make full use of his God-given talents.

Puericulture centers and the government, helping to implement the health program, make a formidable pair in the battle against disease, ignorance, poverty and civic apathy, the President concludes.

During the program, the President presents to Paz M. Catolico, president of the National League of Puericulture Centers of the Philippines, a check for P1, 000 as his personal contribution to the league’s 1965 fund drive.

Back in Malacañang, the President continues working on state papers at his private study till midnight.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal reaffirms faith in the ability of the abaca industry to overcome the threat of ruinous competition posed by synthetic fibers and sisal.

In a speech read for him by Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda at the annual convention of the Association of Abaca Producers and Exporters at the Selecta restaurant, the President tells the delegates that he was gratified to note their determination to meet the problem of synthetics front-ally and constructively.

The Chief Executive assures the delegates that the crisis now faced by the abaca industry can be solved through united and harmonious effort by both the private and government sectors.

The President points to two examples where this kind of joint effort led to impressive results. These are: 1) the many NACIDA-sponsored cottage industries using abaca; and 2) the big strides made by the partnership of the Abaca Development Board and a private company in the manufacture of sacks from abaca.

Despite the competition posed by synthetic fibers and sisal, the President declares he had “a lot of faith” in the strength and intrinsic worth of our abaca and in the determination of abaca producers to extricate themselves from the dilemma confronting them.

The President assures all possible government support to individuals and organizations who may wish to enter this field.

The President also assures full backing for all research projects aimed at finding new uses for abaca.

The President exhorts abaca producers to persevere in their efforts so that “the humble abaca plant can again become the symbol of prosperity that it once was, the source of limitless bounty that it can be.”

*Source:* **National Library**



**President's Week in Review: May 23-29, 1965**

## President's Week in Review: May 30 – June 5, 1965

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**May 30.**—TO give impetus to the nationalization of the retail trade in this country, President Macapagal signs a proclamation declaring the period from June 13 to 19 of every year as Filipino Retailers Week. He observes in his proclamation that Filipino retailers play a vital role in the development of the national economy.

Then the President encloses himself in his study and works the whole morning on official state papers.

In the afternoon, the President together with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, motors to the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City.

The Chief Executive is guest of honor and speaker at graduation ceremonies of the state university.

In his speech, the President calls for integrity “in repelling the titanic public problems of the nation and the brutal evils of society.”

“Integrity has been the magic wand that touched a peasant into a president because integrity is the need of the times and the need of the people in meeting their problems and fulfilling their aspirations,” the President says.

The President continues that “integrity is the dam against the onrushing evils of a materialistic civilization that is overpowering mankind. It is the armor against the onslaught of greed that twists the hearts of men into wickedness. It is the shield against the reckless abandon sown by widespread hypocrisy. It is the asylum from the venomous confusion generated by massive and deliberate deception. It is the stand being made by God in the human soul against the satanic assaults of the wrongs that plague our society.”

The Chief Executive stresses that in repelling the “titanic public problems of the nation and the brutal evils of society, the wisdom of the mind becomes blurred, the will of the heart may become faint, but the integrity of the soul remains undaunted until the victory of good over evil is attained in the end.”

“My one humble advice to you,” he tells the UP graduate, “is to be practitioners and apostles of integrity. This is an injunction that can be carried out only by extraordinary human beings,” he adds.

After his address, the UP Board of Regents confers on the President the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

The President thanks the UP for conferring on him the honorary degree of doctor of laws. He tells the graduates: “The ecstatic and proud value which I give to the honor I have earned in receiving the degree of doctor of laws *honoris causa* from our Alma Mater should make you realize more how privileged you are to receive your education from one of the best universities in the world—the University of the Philippines.”

The Chief Executive also pays tribute to Dr. Carlos P. Romulo, UP president, whom he described as “one of the truly great Filipinos.”

After the ceremonies, the First Couple returns to Malacañang at 7:30 p.m. and proceeds to the Palace chapel to hear Sunday Mass.

Then the President repairs back to his study to work on state papers.

**May 31.**—RECOGNIZING the urgent need to insure productivity— especially in rice and corn—President Macapagal orders Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources Jose Y. Feliciano to utilize every possible means

to let farmers know the various types of assistance government agencies can render to them to increase their production.

The President states that in view of the oncoming planting season, every effort should be exerted to inform farmers just how the government can help them.

“Even before the actual planting season begins, it would be wise to mobilize all government resources to insure greater productivity he say.”

The President, in his directive, likewise emphasizes the importance of progress reports to be filed by agricultural technicians in the field as a means of recording accomplishments and problems for which solutions can be worked out.

At the same time, the President receives a report from Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad that work is progressing smoothly on seven public works “crash” projects.

In his progress report, Secretary Abad stated that his office had issued instructions to district engineers concerned to “commit all men, equipment and materials “to these projects.” Among these “crash” projects are the Nagtahan bridge, the Guadalupe bridge on E. de los Santos Avenue, the Manila South Road and the Manila North Road.

To hasten the early completion of these projects, the President authorizes the immediate release of P4 million.

Secretary Abad further reported that in line with the presidential directive to take advantage of the remaining days of the dry season to rush work on these projects, he had given instructions that for the months of June and July, work be carried out even on Saturdays and Sundays. These extra days will give public works men additional time to pursue the projects before the rainy season starts.

In the afternoon, the President receives the letters of credence of newly-accredited Indonesian Ambassador to the Philippines Abdul Karim Rasjid. Ambassador Rasjid succeeds ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak, who had served as Indon envoy here for eight years.

In response to remarks made by Ambassador Rasjid in presentation ceremonies held at Malacañang ceremonial hall, the Chief Executive emphasizes that the Philippines and Indonesia should not allow petty problems to stand in the way of their common objectives of freedom and prosperity for their respective peoples, security in their part of the world, and universal peace.

In presenting his letters of credence, Ambassador Rasjid vows to devote his mission to the fulfillment of the ideas and ideals cherished by the President and Indonesian President Sukarno as embodied, among others, in the Manila Declaration and the MAPHILINDO, as well as to the implementation of the agreement existing between the Philippines and Indonesia.

Ambassador Rasjid says that while MAPHILINDO “still suffers enormous difficulties not of the making of the three parties concerned,” it will ultimately lead to the materialization of the dream of the Malay race (Malay Irredenta) as wished by President Macapagal when given the rightful opportunity.

In his remarks, the President points out that Indonesia and the Philippines are beset with problems which are natural results of changing conditions.

However, the President says that the Philippines and Indonesia “should not find it hard to work together for these goals because our peoples have so many things in common.”

In the evening, the President convokes the bipartisan National Security Council to discuss the Vietnam situation.

During the meeting, the National Security Council agrees to continue to assist in the struggle against communism in South Vietnam in the interest of Philippine security.

In view of this unanimity of views as regards the sending of additional aid to South Vietnam, the National Security Council recommends the inclusion of House Bill No. 17828 in the agenda of the special session so that Congress may determine the unresolved questions pertaining to the nature of the aid and the amount of appropriation required.

The meeting starts at 9:15 p.m. and ends at 1:15 a.m. the following day.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal receives a message from King, Sari Savang Vathana of Laos, thanking him for felicitating the Loatian people on the occasion of their constitution day.

**June-1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring the period from June 19 to 26 of every year as Children and Youth Week.

In his proclamation, the President points out that in this age, it is necessary to develop to the fullest extent the latent capabilities of the youth to enable the nation to keep in step with the march of progress.

At the same time, the President receives a report that the Special Tenement Housing Committee headed by Auditor General Pedro M. Gimenez had slashed the proposed rental rates for four multi-storey tenement buildings in accordance with his directive.

As reduced by the committee, the lowest rate is P4.00 a month.

The President's directive is in line with his desire to provide decent, comfortable housing for poor families, at the lowest rates possible.

The committee likewise removes the minimum income level of applicants to implement President Macapagal's directive to give priority to destitute squatter families.

The committee decisions are reached at a special meeting held upon the suggestion of Presidential Assistant on Housing Pete de Jesus, who transmitted the President's views on the matter.

As decided by the committee, there will be a general across-the-board reduction of P2.00 on the graduated monthly rental rates ranging from P6.00 a month for a flat on the top (or seventh) floor to P25 a month for the second floor.

Before the rates were revised to the proposed P4.00, De Jesus stated they were already considered the lowest in the world.

In adopting the President's views on the matter, the committee takes full cognizance of the fact that the tenement projects were intended for poor, homeless citizens who should be given every opportunity to have dwellings of their own.

Four tenement buildings are now nearing completion in Vitas, Tondo; the NDC compound in Santa Mesa; at Punta, Santa Ana; and in the vicinity of Fort Bonifacio, near the superhighway. These projects are authorized by Republic Act No. 3469, which is among the President's pet measures. The amount of P15 million is appropriated for the purpose.

In the afternoon, the President, together with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, motors to Diliman, Quezon City to inaugurate the new P3-million edifice which will house the offices of the Philippine Tobacco Administration and the Land Reform Authority. The First Lady cuts the ceremonial ribbon.

In extemporaneous remarks, the President underscores the necessity of integrity in men who hold public office, whether they be high public officials or lowly employees.

The Chief Executive deplors that the blemished reputation of many government officials nowadays was due to unreasonable demands of wives on their husbands when these men come to hold high positions wherein they could make use of official powers for selfish interests.

The President exhorts the PTA and Land Reform officials and employees to “keep on the task, to continue in the fight for a peaceful revolution, and to carry on in your respective posts in the continuing fight against poverty.”

From Diliman, the First Couple proceeds to Makati for the “Araw ng Makati” celebration marking the 64th anniversary of Makati’s incorporation into the province of Rizal. The President is the guest of honor and speaker of the occasion.

Back in Malacañang, the President continues working on official papers.

**June 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal administers the oath of office to: 1) Judge Ricardo Puno, former CFI Judge in Iba, Zambales and Malolos, Bulacan, as CFI Judge of the Manila CFI, Branch XXIV; 2) Judge Andres Sta. Maria, former CFI Judge in Mindoro and San Pablo City, as CFI Judge of Bulacan; 3) Mrs. Lydia A. Villegas, wife of the Manila city mayor, as member of the Board of Censors for Motion Pictures; and 4) Vice-Governor William Villegas of Negros Oriental, as acting governor of his province in the absence of Gov. Mariano Perdice who is leaving for abroad.

Then the President works in his study on official papers the whole day.

In the evening, the President confers with heads of various sugarcane planters associations. During the conference, various problems of the sugar industry are taken up with the view to improving the present state of the industry.

Meantime, President Macapagal receives a message of gratitude from Pakistani President Mohammed Ayub Khan, for conveying the Filipino people’s condolences over the crash of a jetliner which claimed the lives of 121 persons while en route to Cairo.

At the same time, the President also receives a message of thanks from King Olav of Norway, for the message of felicitations sent by the Chief Executive to the Norwegian monarch on the observance of the National Day of Norway.

**June 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal designates Gen. Carlos P. Romulo, president of the University of the Philippines, as Philippine delegate to the XXth anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly’s conference on International Organizations.

As Philippine delegate to the UN conference, Gen. Romulo is empowered by the President to meet and confer with appropriate officials of the United Nations, and other Delegates of other UN member states with like power and authority, for and in behalf of the Philippines. The conference will be held in San Francisco from June 25 to 26.

At the same time, the Chief Executive signs a proclamation declaring Saturday (June 19) a special public holiday.

He issues the proclamation “in order to give the people full opportunity to celebrate the 104th anniversary of the birth of Dr. Jose Rizal, with appropriate ceremonies in keeping with his ideals and teachings.”

In the afternoon, the President receives Ambassador Francisco E. Garcia who presented his credential as new Mexican envoy to the Philippines.

In accepting the envoy's letter of credence, the President speaks of the socio-economic program that the administration had launched to vitalize and expand the national economy and relieve and improve the living conditions of the masses of the people.

The President points out, however, that since Philippine resources are not enough for this great project, foreign capital for the exploitation of the nation's immense natural resources, for the development and creation of new industries and the consequent expansion of its foreign trade, is needed.

"It is here where the effective help and cooperation of Your Excellency may be hoped for—by letting your capitalists, industrialists and all active elements of your country know of the great opportunities which at this present moment, the Philippines offers for your investments, your expectations and importations and the great benefits that all these will produce for the benefit of our respective peoples," the President tells the new envoy.

In presenting his credentials, Ambassador Garcia informs the President that Dr. Gustavo Diaz Ordaz, President of the United States of Mexico, had directed him to "conserve and to increase" the friendly relations and mutual understanding between Mexico and the Philippines, "a sister nation and friend with whom we have unbreakable ties of history, tradition and affection."

After receiving Ambassador Garcia, the President attends to other callers at his study, among whom are: Ambassador Jacinto C. Borja, Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, Justice Undersecretary Melanio Singson and Governor Esteban Piczon of Samar.

Ambassador Borja, who arrived recently from his post in Japan for a few days' visit, pays a courtesy call while Auditor-General Gimenez, who is leaving for Israel to attend a conference of Super-Audits from June 12 to 24, bids the President goodbye.

After receiving his callers, the President together with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, motors to the Eternit compound in Mandaluyong, Rizal. The President is the special guest at the 15th anniversary celebration of the asbestos-cement firm.

In his speech, the President cites the role of Filipino know-how and Filipino technicians in the growth of a firm which has pioneered in asbestos-cement manufacture.

The President notes that 80 per cent of the materials used by the firm are obtained locally.

"This means that Eternit Corporation gives employment to a lot of people, directly in its factory, and indirectly through the raw materials that it needs," the President says.

The Chief Executive points out that the Eternit Corporation was showing, through the harmonious collaboration of Filipino and foreign investors, that nationalistic and ethnic considerations need not hinder economic development and progress.

Back in Malacañang, the President continues working on state papers until past midnight.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal underscores the value of integrity, and the importance of electing into office men of proven integrity, whose rectitude can stand the most searching scrutiny.

In a speech read for him by Cebu City Mayor Sergio Osmeña Jr. at the 12th annual convention of the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines, in Baguio City, the President notes the country is undergoing years of crisis, where a wrong turn or the choice of wrong leaders could be catastrophic.

The Chief Executive explains “just as a rural bank cannot continue to operate unless its management is of impeccable integrity, so will a government bog down unless its leaders are morally upright and unimpeachably virtuous.”

“How can the people have faith in their government, how can they in conscience support it and rally behind it, if their leaders live under a cloud, or if their morality is suspect,” the President asks.

He cautions that “just as a potential depositor will not think of entrusting his savings with a bank whose leadership is suspect, so should we not even consider electing into office a man whose personal integrity is of dubious strength.”

Pointing out that the key to the success of rural bankers is their proven integrity, the President calls on them to show to the people “that integrity, is the touchstone of nation-building, and that the crisis of leadership can be overcome only by electing leaders of proven integrity.”

The Chief Executive recalls that when the first rural bank was established in Pasig, Rizal in 1952, under Republic Act No. 720, there was no guarantee that it would prosper or be the forerunner of 293 others.

Yet, he concludes, rural banks today have extended loans to some 1,595,140 deserving individuals with practically no collaterals required, and have an aggregate resource of P245 million which is being devoted to socioeconomic development.

**June 4.**—AS the controversy over the United States policy in Vietnam and the Dominican Republic took a back seat to the latest and spectacular U.S. space venture which is still underway and is scheduled to wind up Monday (June 7), President Macapagal—regarding this event as another great feat achieved by America towards the conquest of space, sends a cable to President Lyndon B. Johnson congratulating him and the American people for the successful launching of the Gemini 4 and the successful walk through space by Astronaut Edward White.

The President also approves the promotion of 51 first lieutenants in the armed forces to the rank of captain, as well as the commission of 49 individuals with the ranks of second and first lieutenants in the different branches of the AFP.

Then the President meets Reparations Commissioner Benedicto Padilla and Fisheries Commissioner Arsenio Roldan who brief him on their respective problems.

The President likewise receives Rep. Dominador Tan of Leyte, and Governors Encarnacion Fornier of Antique and Alfonso Dadole of Misamis Oriental on matters concerning their respective regions.

In the evening, the Chief Executive administers the oath of office to Fernando E. V. Sison as chairman of the Philippine National Railways at a ceremony at the President’s study. Chairman Sison is reappointed to the post after his original appointment was bypassed by the Commission on Appointments for lack of time.

Sison also reports to the President on the results of his recent trip to Japan to negotiate for loans to finance the expansion of the railway firm.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal sends a citygram to Fr. Henry L. Irwin of the Ateneo de Manila, congratulating him on his 50th year as a Jesuit. Fr. Irwin is known for his outstanding service in the classical tradition of Ateneo dramatics and as professor of Philosophy, English, Theology, Latin, Humanities and Rhetoric.

**June 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal devotes his time studying and working on state papers in the seclusion of his study.

After reading the newspapers and weekend magazines in the morning, the Chief Executive likewise engrosses himself with official reports on state matters.

Among the reports is the statistical data on the progress of the government's campaign against criminality and smuggling which was submitted to the President by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta Jr.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



## **President's Week in Review: June 6-12, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal expresses satisfaction over the progress of the anti-smuggling drive but urges the government entities engaged in the operations to put in their “utmost” in order to stamp out smuggling activities in this country.

A report made to the President shows that the combined activities of the Philippine Constabulary and the Philippine Navy have resulted in the apprehension of 6,429 persons engaged in smuggling, and the seizure of more than P60-million worth of smuggled goods, of which blue seal cigarettes represented 95.6 per cent, since 1962.

The Navy reports that as of May 31 this year, It had apprehended 2,079 persons engaged in smuggling, together with 21 firearms and 300 boats, and seized P35,873,882.12 worth of smuggled goods and f 56,582.00 in cash.

In a similar report, the Constabulary states that as of April 30, this year, some 4,350 persons engaged in smuggling had been apprehended and P25,369,506.68 worth of smuggled products, seized.

The Constabulary likewise reports the arrest of 726 cattle rustlers and the recovery of 1,352 out of 2,813 animals stolen, and the arrest of 1,330 illegal loggers and 3,078 engaged in dynamite fishing.

In a separate drive, the Navy also apprehends 174 fishers using or trafficking in dynamite.

At the same time, the President dispatches a citygram to Gabriel “Flash Elorde” congratulating him for the successful defense of his world junior lightweight title against Japan’s Teruo Kosaka, the latest challenger.

In his citygram to the Filipino world champion, the President says: “On behalf of our countrymen and on my own, I hail you for successfully defending the world junior lightweight crown which you and your countrymen treasure deeply. Your splendid performance was a tribute indeed to Filipino tradition of sportsmanship. Congratulations again with the best of wishes for future success.”

To challenger Kosaka, the President also says: “Please accept our sincere admiration for a good fighter that you are. I believe I express the feeling of the Filipino people that few other boxers could have put up such a magnificent show of clean fight.”

With his victory, Flash Elorde is acclaimed by both the World Boxing Association and the “Ring” magazine as the greatest fighter of his division. Elorde has fought and vanquished seven or six of the first ten contenders, some of them several times by knockout. He has defended his title eight times in the five years following his dramatic dethroning of the reigning champion Harold Gomes—on March 16, 1960.

In the afternoon, the President and the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, attends the Feast of the Pentocost mass at the Malacañang chapel.

**June 7.**—WITNESSING the signing of a loan agreement between the Philippines and the United States involving P5 million to be made part of a total fund required to install and operate electric plant systems in 217 towns, President Macapagal reiterates his determination to provide cheap electric power in rural areas to stimulate the growth of industries as part of the Administration’s effort to “fight poverty.”

The Chief Executive explains that the amount is a small fraction of the sum actually needed to provide electricity to 780 towns and 400 selected barrios which the Electrification Administration had set as its short-range objective.

The President emphatically points out that the improvement of existing systems to make them capable of rendering better service at reduced rate is another immediate concern of the government.

Formal signing of the agreement sets the machinery in motion for the implementation of the second point agreed upon between President Johnson and President Macapagal when the Philippine Chief Executive made a state visit to the U.S. last October. The first point of the agreement is the creation of a joint US-RP committee to take up the Philippine veterans' omnibus claim against the U.S. Government, the Philippine panel of which had already been designated by the President.

The agreement falls under the terms of the P16-million credit agreement between the Philippines and the United States signed at Malacañang on December 23, 1964. It represents a line of credit under the provisions of US Public Law 480. The loan is expected to bear an interest of three-fourth of one per cent and will be paid in 30 years in semi-annual amortizations.

Then the Chief Executive administers the oath of office to Jose L. Gonzalez as municipal judge of Surigao, Surigao and to Guillermo V. Fuentes as clerk of court in the first judicial district of the Court of First Instance of Cagayan.

In the evening, the President receives several callers, consisting of congressmen and local officials who consulted him on problems of their respective provinces and towns.

**June 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal receives the credentials of Ambassador Antonio Novais Machado of Portugal who succeeded Ambassador Fernando Lobao de Carvalho.

In response to the speech made by the new Portuguese envoy, the President states that the existing ties between the Philippines and Portugal will be strengthened and that a resident mission will soon be established in Lisbon.

In his speech, the Portuguese envoy remarks that he is honored to serve in a country which has so many common ties with his own, especially "the profession of the same faith and practice of the same culture."

He adds that he would contribute further to the strengthening of the already friendly relations between the Philippines and Portugal, towards a more complete and perfect realization of common interests "which may bring our two peoples closer also in their social, political and economic relations."

The Chief Executive likewise expresses his thanks to a goodwill message of President Amerigo Deus Rodrigues Thomaz of Portugal which the new envoy conveyed to him during the ceremony.

Immediately after the presentation rite, the President receives a call from Ambassador Oscar Ledesma who is on home leave, and is briefed on matters pending between the Philippine Embassy in Washington and the State Department. The call lasted for 15 minutes.

Meantime, the President, upon being informed that fire hit the town of Medina, Misamis Oriental, immediately orders Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz to direct all government relief agencies to extend immediate aid to the victims of the conflagration.

**June 9.**— OFFICIALS of the Philippine National Railways, during a Cabinet meeting, briefs President Macapagal on the progress of the agency's efforts to improve rail service in the country, particularly in its southern line.

PNR Chairman Fernando E. V. Sison and General Manager Dominador de Asis take turns in reporting to the President and the Cabinet the steps the PNR has been taking to implement a Presidential instruction that the "improvement program move as fast as possible."

Acting Economic Administrator Eleuterio Adevosos also reports that all resources of the government are being marshalled to push to a successful conclusion the PNR improvement program.

Sison who just returned from Japan on railroad business, says that the PNR has been receiving spare parts for its equipment and rolling stock thus enabling it to put into operation locomotives, coaches and barns. With more locomotives and cars in operation, Sison states, the PNR has managed to meet its tentative schedules.

Before the Cabinet meeting, the President meets with Muslim leaders led by Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun on problems of Muslim provinces. At the meeting are General Services Secretary Duma Sinsuat, Governors Udtog Matalam of Cotabato and Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, Reps, Salih Ututalum of Sulu and Rasid Lucman of Lanao del Sur, National Integration Commissioner Abraham Rasul and Mayor Odin Sinsuat of Dinaig, Cotabato.

Earlier in the afternoon, the President is special guest at the award ceremony of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines (CAWP) held at the Philippine Women's University during which he presents to one of the awardees, the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, the CAWP award for community service. Mrs. Irene Vda. de Macaraeg, the First Lady's mother, pins the accompanying merit medal on her daughter. Also in attendance are the President's children, Gloria and Diosdado, Jr.

Mrs. Belen Enrile Gutierrez, CAWP president, read the citation for the First Lady as follows:

"For exemplifying the true spirit of humanitarian service, giving unselfishly her services to the sick and the indigent—before World War II to the patients at the San Lazaro Hospital; during the liberation period, as member of the Medical Division of the Philippine Civil Affairs Unit, PCAU;

"For her continued and selfless dedication to the service of her countrymen despite her manifold duties as First Lady of the land—directing such projects as Operation Sagip and looking after the needs of settlers in government resettlement areas in Sapang Palay, Mindanao and remote rural areas;

"For her tireless efforts to make the Philippines a better place to live in through the beautification of Manila's historic Luneta, Malacañang and "Libingan ng Mga Bayani" among others; the intensification of the campaign for better moving pictures and television shows;

"For her effective motivation of the national economic development program, by precept and example, through her initiated and directed projects which can be easily carried out by individual citizens; such as, the use of Pag-asa clothing material and food production through the piggery, poultry and vegetable garden projects in Malacañang;

"For her inspiring leadership which has drawn others to rally behind such civic and community projects as; The 4th Centennial Celebration of the Christianization of the Philippines, the drive for the support of the Medical Research Foundation of the Philippines, national and international cultural projects;

"For all these and her many other achievements which have left the indelible imprint of her many-faceted civic mindedness on Philippine communities and the nation, the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines award the Medal of Merit and cites Evanglina Macaraeg Macapagal for Community Service."

In the morning, the President administers the oath to newly elected officers of the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines headed by Jose E. Desiderio, president. Working on official papers at his Palace study later, the Chief Executive signs a deportation order for one Ching Te, a Chinese national, as an undesirable alien whose continued presence in the country is considered a menace to the peace and safety of the community. Meanwhile, in a speech read before him by Rep. Lucas Paredes of Abra at the closing ceremonies of the World Assembly of Youth seminar at the Pines Hotel in Baguio City, the President calls upon the women of Asia to work side by side with their menfolk to help build "a world with less poverty, less sickness, less ignorance and with greater opportunity for all for growth and improvement."

**June 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal serves notice that he would take drastic action against any official of the government who does not cooperate in the moral regeneration campaign of his administration. The President sounds

the warning as he issues an administrative order enjoining top officials of the government to accelerate the tempo of the moral regeneration drive.

“Any official who involves himself or participates in any dubious matter or who otherwise does not adhere to the moral regeneration campaign does so at the risk of having drastic action taken against him,” the President declares.

He observes that by and large, “we have done well” in the moral regeneration drive which started soon after he assumed office.

“As a result,” he says, “the spread of big-time graft which characterized the past administration has been arrested and corruption is being reduced steadily at all levels.”

The President adds, however, that such an effort as the moral regeneration drive must be kept in high gear if it is to produce the desired results. He reiterates that graft and corruption have been minimized in the upper echelons of the government but that much remains to be done in the lower levels.

“There is need to accelerate the pace of the moral regeneration campaign,” he says.

Meantime, unique expressions of support to his bid for reelection are showered upon President Macapagal through songs and dances by some 1,500 members of the Women’s Auxiliary for Better Manila headed by Mrs. Lydia Villegas, wife of the city mayor.

Glad in colorful *balintawak* dresses, the all-women delegation at Malacañang in the evening, assures the President to the soothing refrains of Lullabies and *kundimans* that they will work for his reelection to give him a chance to carry out his plans for the progress of the country and to save the people from the bondage of misery and want.

The unusual serenade for the President lasted for about two hours starting at 6:30 p.m.

Earlier in the afternoon, the President’s callers consists mostly of local leaders who consults him on problems of their provinces and towns. The callers includes a delegation from Antique headed by Gov. Encarnacion Former, Vice Gov. Guillermo Javier, Board Member Cesar Rodriguez, Veterans Administrator Alberto Villavert and Associate Commissioner Jose Fornier of the Public Service Commission.

The Chief Executive does not receive any callers in the morning. He works on pending papers in his study during which he approves the promotion of First Lieutenants Manuel A. Magbutay and Francisco Ferrer to the grade of captain in the reserve force of the medical administrative corps of the armed forces. He also signs the designation of Ambassador Modesto Farolan as Resident Representative of the Philippines to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. Ambassador Farolan’s designation will be in addition to his duties as Philippine envoy to Switzerland and ambassador- designate to Austria.

The President also receives a joint resolution from the barrio council, barrio assembly and various civic organizations of Pansol, Quezon City thanking him for certifying House Bill No. 17846, which authorizes the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation to acquire a parcel of land in the barrio for subdivision and sale to *bona fide occupants*. Pansol residents expressed their gratitude to President Macapagal for his desire to provide lands for the landless,

**June 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues the following message on the eve of the 67th anniversary of Philippine Independence:

*“As we celebrate Independence Day let us occupy our thoughts with the basic problems of poverty which seems to be the common lot of the majority of our people.*

*“I have always maintained that there can be no true independence unless we are economically secure.... The struggles of our people to free themselves from the bondage of poverty will long continue unless we succeed in creating for them an economic atmosphere congenial to the production of the means with which they can end this fight against poverty.*

*“This is the reason for my vow to bend all my energies and direct my vision towards the conquest of this poverty which retards the growth of our country and prevents the fulfillment of our national aspirations. For while we may have finally won political emancipation from centuries of foreign domination, our unrealized potentials still hold us enslaved to want and destination.*

*“As we celebrate Independence Day, I call upon all our countrymen, to rally behind this continuing fight against poverty. Let us all remember our heritage of freedom and the long and glorious fight which our forefathers fought to preserve it. Let our fight against poverty be as fierce and courageous, for in this way alone can we finally realize and enjoy the true meaning of freedom.”*

The President grants executive clemency to a total of 37 prisoners—12 conditional pardons, one special absolute pardon, four absolute pardons and 20 commutations of sentences. These pardons and commutations of sentence are granted upon the recommendation of the board of pardons and parole.

Messages of felicitations from heads of states all over the world continue pouring at Malacañang as the nation prepares to celebrate its Independence Day.

From President Lyndon B. Johnson: “On this occasion of Philippine Independence Day, it gives me great pleasure on behalf of the people of the United States and on my own behalf, to send to Your Excellency and through you to the people of the Philippines sincere good wishes and assurances of warm friendship.”

Speaking before a gathering of the Association of Public Secondary School Administrators which calls at Malacañang in the evening upon the conclusion of their five-day 10th annual convention in Manila, President Macapagal assures he would give priority to the full implementation of salary increases for public school teachers.

Headed by Fortunato Asuncion and Bernardo Fajardo, incoming and outgoing presidents, respectively, of the Association made up of principals of public secondary schools throughout the country, the conventionists are accompanied to the Palace by Roman Lorenzo, superintendent of city schools of Manila.

Earlier in the afternoon, the President receives a two-man mission from Algeria which calls at Malacañang to pay its respects. Ambassador Tenfik Bouatoure, Algeria’s envoy to the United Nations and special envoy of Algerian President Ben Bella; and Ambassador Havie Deiagh Latrous, Algeria’s envoy to Indonesia, arrived in this country recently in the course of a tour of Asian countries in preparation for the Second Afro-Asian Conference to be held in Algeria late this month.

Working in-between callers at his Palace study, the President signs the nomination papers of Judge Jesus Y. Perez of Manila as associate justice of the court of appeals; Judge Felix Makasiar as district judge of the sixth judicial district, to preside over the court of first instance of Manila, branch III; and Carlos J. Cuizon as district judge of the seventh judicial district to preside over the court of first instance of Rizal and the cities of Quezon, Pasay and Caloocan, branch XI at Pasig, Rizal.

The President also directs, (1) Brig. Gen. Flaviano Olivares, constabulary chief, to conduct a speedy investigation of an ambush reported in Narvacan, Ilocos Sur which resulted in the death of six persons; (2) Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz to call for a prompt inquiry into reports that some ranking officials of the Parks and Wildlife Office had defrauded the government of P42,000 in connection with the construction of a viewing deck at the Mt. Arayat National Park in Pampanga; and (3) Health Secretary Manuel Cuenco to mobilize all government health facilities and resources in preventing the possible outbreak of an influenza epidemic in various parts of the country.

**June 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spells out a four-pronged attack on the problem of poverty and calls on the nation to pursue it with “sacrifice and a summons to our greatness as a people.”

The President makes the call in an Independence Day address at the Luneta where a crowd estimated at well over 500,000 gathered to celebrate the 67th anniversary of Philippine Independence at Kawit, Cavite. Expressing confidence that Filipinos could achieve Freedom from Poverty, the President adds: “We have in us the seed of greatness.”

President and Mrs. Macapagal, their children, Arturo and Gloria, arrives at the Luneta about 2:00 p.m. The President is greeted with 21-gun salute. His speech follows a two-hour civic-military parade. Taking only about 15 minutes to deliver, it is one of the shortest Independence Day speeches on record.

Earlier in the morning, at ceremonies in Quezon City, the President delivers a 10-minute speech which defines a four-point approach to the poverty problem.

With the President at the Luneta rites are Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal, Msgr. Carlo Martini who headed members of the diplomatic corps, member of the Cabinet, both Houses of Congress and the judicial branch of the government, and other ranking officials.

Before delivering his speech, the President is presented with the original Philippine flag which Mrs. Marcela Agoncillo sewed in Hongkong for the Independence proclamation in Kawit on June 12, 1898. It is delivered to the President at the Quirino Memorial Grandstand by Emilio Aguinaldo Jr. who came in a tilbury, in the same manner that it was brought to Kawit from Imus in Cavite where it was landed from Hongkong.

“Mabuhay ang Bayang Pilipino. Mabuhay ang Republika Pilipinas. Mabuhay ang ating Kalayaan. Mabuhay si Heneral Aguinaldo.” His voice ringing with emotion, President Macapagal vibrantly echoes these words, first uttered by Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo 67 years ago, as he waved the same old flag amid the wail of sirens from offices, factories and ships in Manila Bay, the ringing of church bells and the cheers of more than half a million people which spills all over the Luneta grounds.

A tableau which follows the President’s speech catches episodes in the battle of Tirad Pass where the young Gen. Gregorio del Pilar, providing rear guard for the retreating Gen. Aguinaldo, made a gallant last stand against the American forces.

The President stands during most of the parade, viewing the colorful and symbolic floats which all depicts the “Fight Poverty” theme.

At the close of the ceremonies at the grandstand, the crowd of people surges in to get a good view of the President, to the consternation of policemen and security agents.

The President, however, stays for sometime shaking hands with the crowd before he boards his car and finally leaves for the Palace.

In his speech at the Quezon City Independence Day program, the President calls upon the Filipino people to reaffirm their commitment to democratic ideals if they are to hand on to their children, intact and viable, the freedom they now possess and enjoy.

Celebration in the capital city is held at the Quezon Memorial Circle with a one-hour civic parade.

In introducing the President, Mayor Norberto Amoranto takes occasion to express to the President the gratitude of the city’s residents for the various assistance extended by the Administration to the city government in spite of his being a Nacionalista.

He mentions, among others, the millions of pesos given by the national government for public work improvements as well as a 12-hectares land for use by the city hall.

In the evening, the President and the First Lady plays host at the traditional Independence Day state dinner in Malacañang.

Among those present at the affair are members of the Cabinet, the diplomatic corps, congress and the judiciary and their ladies, ranking army officers and their ladies, and leaders in the business and industrial fields and their ladies.

From President Chiang Kai-shek of the Republic of China—"On the auspicious occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Philippines, I have the honor to extend to Your Excellency my sincerest felicitations and best wishes for your personal wellbeing and the continued prosperity of your great nation."

From Queen Elizabeth II of England—"On the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of the Philippines, I have much pleasure in sending to Your Excellency personally and to the Philippine people my cordial greetings and best wishes."

From President Sukarno of Indonesia—"On behalf of the people and Government of the Republic of Indonesia and in my own name, I wish most sincerely to convey to Your Excellency and the entire people of the Philippines the most cordial congratulations on the happy occasion of the celebration of the Philippines' Independence Day. I am confident that the good established relations and friendship between the two peoples will become stronger and stronger. Availing of this opportunity, I wish Your Excellency the best of health and great happiness and friendly people of the Philippines great progress and prosperity."

From Chairman Ne Win of the Revolutionary Council of Burma—"On the auspicious occasion of the anniversary of the Independence Day of the Philippines, the people of the Union of Burma join me in extending to Your Excellency, and through you, to the people of the Philippines our warmest congratulations and best wishes for Your Excellency's personal wellbeing and for the happiness and prosperity of the people of the Philippines."

From President Nnamdi Azikiwe of the Federal Republic of Nigeria—"On behalf of myself, the government and people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, I extend to you felicitations and best wishes on the occasion of the anniversary of your Independence Day. May our two countries continue to develop to our mutual benefit and in the interest of the maintenance of peace throughout the world."

*Source: National Library of the Philippines*

## **President's Week in Review: June 13-19, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 13.**—PRESIDENT spends the whole day working on official state papers in the seclusion of his private study.

In the afternoon, the Chief Executive boards the Philippine Navy ship RPS "21" for Zamboanga City to resume his out-of-town inspection trips after staying out in Malacañang for almost a month. His last trip to the province was in Davao City where he laid the cornerstone of the proposed Central Bank building.

Before boarding the presidential ship, the President confers with retired Col. Amado Bautista, former manager of the National Development Company.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal warns against the evils of regionalism "which have become a roadblock to true unity and a blight on the national landscape."

In a speech read for him by Rep. Lucas Paredes at the coronation of the fiesta queen of Tuburan, Cebu, the President points out that all Filipinos must have a sense of national identity, a feeling of affinity and oneness with each other.

The President deplores the fact that the people identify themselves by the regional aggrupation they hail from, "displaying a pride so overweening they tend to look down on other persons from other places."

"It should not matter to us where a Filipino comes from," he says. "What should matter is his intrinsic worth as a man, his abilities and his qualifications. We should remember that no region has a monopoly on talent, that greatness in a man will manifest itself with no regard for his geographical beginnings."

The Chief Executive also deplores the practice of generalizing, of saying for example, that Ilocanos are thrifty, that Ilongos are luxury loving, or that Pampangos are good cooks, which is not always true.

The President continues that such practice breeds ill-will and dissension because it builds public images that are destructive. "If we must praise or criticize," he states, "we should do so on the basis of individual persons, not of regions."

The President bewails the practice of considering regional origins in the matter of appointments, or when candidates for president, vice president and senators are chosen, but adds, this could not be ignored because regional loyalties are so rabid, so all-exclusive, and the consequences could be cataclysmic if they are disregarded.

"Regionalism is divisive. It tends to splinter our people into hostile aggrupations, setting them against each other in a geographical cold war that benefits nobody and prejudices everybody."

"In an age where the stress is on One World, on internationalism, we have anachronisms, throwbacks from an earlier period."

But, the President adds, this could be avoided if the Filipinos were to learn from European history. He notes that there were no peoples more jealous of their national heritage than the Germans, French and English.

"Yet," the President stresses, "today, substantial progress is being achieved at establishing the United States of Europe. The European Common Market is breaking down national barriers and geographical boundaries and the peoples are learning to work more closely and more harmoniously with each other."

"The Germans, British and French have been traditional enemies, yet they are forging a unity among themselves, forgetting regional differences, eschewing racial hatreds—all for the sake of mutual progress."



The President states that Filipinos can and must do the same because if they don't their progress will be hindered, and the shadow on the national soul will never be dispelled.

**June 14.**—ABOARD RPS "21" President Macapagal approves all the recommendations of Chief Prosecutor Emilio Gancayco following his two months' long investigation of anomalies at the People's Home-site and Housing Corporation.

The recommendations includes the institution of criminal charges against former PHHC Manager Leoncio R. Parungao, Jr., for violation of the Anti-Graft Law.

Immediately upon approving Gancayco's recommendations, the President orders a top-level reorganization of the state housing firm as well as the publication of the Gancayco report "in accordance with our policy of not hiding anything from the public."

In reorganizing the PHHC, the President initiates the following actions: (1) transfers of PHHC Acting Manager Estanislao Bernal to the Department of General Services, as undersecretary; (2) directs the PHHC Board to name Assistant Manager Jose T. Villanea as acting general manager; (3) names Presidential Assistant on Housing Pete S. de Jesus as chairman of the PHHC Board, in place of Manuel Cruz who had resigned to seek nomination for Congress in the first district of Bulacan; (4) Designates Benjamin Morales as a director of the PHHC Board, vice Jose Espino who had resigned to seek the lone congressional seat of Nueva Vizcaya; (5) names Jose Ricafort, Sr., as a director of the PHHC Board in place of Sergio Loyola who had resigned to seek the nomination for Congress in Manila's third district.

The President, in approving the Gancayco recommendation, authorizes Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz to sign seven action papers designed to implement Gancayco's recommendations.

The first action paper would have the Secretary of Justice institute criminal action against Parungao and Ernesto Padre, an auditor of the Bureau of Supply Coordination for violation of the Anti-Graft law and Art. 213 of the Revised Penal Code; Jose Yumul and Aniceto Yumul, for violation of Art. 213 of the Revised Penal Code; and Oden Amurao and Rogelio Medina, for estafa through falsification of public documents.

The second action paper would notify the Auditor General that administrative action would be taken against Ernesto Padre for usurpation of authority, acts unbecoming a public official, and violations of standard operating procedure, memoranda and circulars of higher authorities.

The third action paper would have Gancayco assist the PHHC management in the administrative investigation of PHHC personnel Emilio Agtarap and Cesar Menez, and for Gancayco to continue probing all contested areas in the Piñahan subdivision.

The fourth action paper would have the Solicitor General take appropriate court action concerning the award of lots along the Anakan creek in West Avenue, Quezon City, which are already covered by deeds of sale and titles.

The fifth action paper would have the new PHHC manager conduct administrative action against certain personnel as well as adopt corrective measures to improve the operations of the corporation.

The sixth action paper would have the present PHHC Board answer within 15 days certain questions on the Piñahan subdivision case, its policy of giving preferential rights to bonafide occupants, its repeal of a resolution revoking the proposed subdivision of West Triangle, questions arising from the subdivision of Block E-122, and other questionable actions.

The seventh action paper gives the PHHC Board specific instructions on the action to take with regard to awards in the subdivisions of Piñahan, West Triangle, Bagong Pagasa, Mindanao Avenue, Project 3, Project 8-A Project 1, and

East Avenue, and enjoins the Board against making any award unless a subdivision plan has been duly approved and its correct price determined.

The President also confers briefly with his special staff on board the presidential ship.

Then the President seeks the seclusion of his cabin to; work on official papers he brought along with him to Mindanao where he will pro claim national LP candidates in public rallies to be held in four cities.

In the afternoon, while the ship is cruising along the East Cuyo Pass west of Antique, the President receives a report stating that two commercial blocks in Bontoc, Mt. Province were razed by fire, causing damage estimated at P1-million. Immediately, he orders SWA Administrator Jose Pelayo to rush relief to Bontoc and the Philippine Constabulary and other government relief agencies to prevent the spiralling of prices in the stricken area and to help the local police force maintain peace and order.

**June 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal en route to Zamboanga City, issues a proclamation declaring June 17 as Land Registration Day.

The Chief Executive issues the proclamation in answer to the need to impress upon landowners, specially those in the rural areas, the importance of securing torrehs titles to their lands, and the benefits that could be derived therefrom.

The President points out in his proclamation that land ownership is vital to the enhancement of the social and economic well being of the people.

Waking up early in the morning, the President, after having breakfast with Manila newspapermen on board the presidential ship, works the whole day on state papers, including bills passed during the last regular session of Congress.

In the afternoon, the President arrives in Zamboanga City on the first leg of a five-day swing to four key Mindanao cities. He is accorded a rousing welcome.

In the evening, the President addresses a huge rally where he pro claims his runningmate, Senator Gerardo M. Roxas and the eight LP senatorial aspirants.

After the rally, the President boards the ship at 2 a.m.

**June 16.**—EN ROUTE to Cotabato City, President Macapagal spends most of the day working in his cabin aboard the RPS “21” on official papers.

The President works on bills passed by Congress which had been sent to him with corresponding recommendations for either approval or veto by a Cabinet committee.

The Chief Executive also orders the Department of National Defense to study the possibility of lending armed forces trucks to the City of Manila to help solve the garbage collection problem.

In another directive, the President orders Secretary of Health Manuel Cuenco to send medical assistance to two Pangasinan towns where most of the residents were reported downed by flu.

Arriving off Cotabato in the afternoon, the President and his party transfer to a smaller boat for the upstream trip to the City.

The President lands at the city at 5 p.m. and after a free-wheeling interview with local news and radio men, proceeds to the town plaza for the proclamation—the second held in Mindanao in two days.

After the rally, the President rests over night at the residence of Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun.

**June 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal instructs Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz to ask for a complete report from General Manager Dominador de Asis on the collision of two Philippine National Railways trains in La Union Wednesday, causing the death of 14 passengers and in-Arriving at 6 p.m. at Davao City, President Macapagal warns the people against voting into high offices men of doubtful integrity and who would disregard the interest of the poor in order to advance their own. The Chief Executive sounds the warning at a mammoth rally which witnessed his proclamation of the eight LP senatorial candidates in the city.

The President asserts that this country has no use for leaders who, instead of helping the poor because they are hardly able to help themselves, would even go to the extent of depriving the poor of their rights in their consummate desire to serve their selfish ends.

The President enumerates some of the bold programs launched by the administration to better the living conditions of the people and extricate the masses from misery and want. Among those the President cites are: rural electrification program designed to light up towns and barrios; construction of housing projects and multi-storey tenement buildings, considered among the most beautiful in the world, to provide more decent dwellings for the homeless; and the land reform program which would transform tenant families into proud landowners.

**June 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal announces the composition of the Philippine delegation to the Second Afro-Asian Conference to be held in Alegiers late this month.

The delegation, headed by Vice President Emmanuel Pelaez, as chairman; is composed of Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez, vice chairman; Senators Lorenzo Sumulong, Arturo Tolentino and Ambrosio Padilla; Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun, Reps. Godofredo Ramos of Aklan and Jose Laurel, Jr. of Batangas; Governor Benigno Aquino of Tarlac, Ambassadors Juan Arreglado, Romeo Busuego, Mauro Baradi and Eduardo Rosal; and Hermenegildo Atienza, as members.

The President also names Foreign Undersecretary Librado D. Cayco as acting foreign affairs secretary, in the absence of Sec. Mendez, the delegation's vice chairman.

In the afternoon, the President boards the presidential Fokker plane "Common Man" for Cagayan de Oro where he continues to press the issue of integrity as he declares in a public rally that no government will survive unless its leaders are morally upright.

The President emphasizes that everyone has a stake in good government.

The Chief Executive cautions the people against passivity and in difference lest their government fall into the hands of persons "whose rectitude has not been proven beyond doubt, or whose past actions cannot pass the most searching scrutiny."

After the rally, the President stays overnight at the residence of Congressman Vicente de Lara.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal exhorts the officials and employees of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority (NAWASA) to perform their work with dedication, energy and zeal.

The Chief Executive makes the exhortation in a message which was read for him by Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad at the inauguration of the flocculation and sedimentation basins of the NAWASA in connection with its 10th anniversary celebration.

The P4.8-million flocculation and sedimentation basins in Balara are part of the P200-million cash program to improve and expand the water system for Greater Manila, with a capacity of 120 million gallons a day.

The President point out that the inauguration of these basins marks a new day for the Greater Manila residents and presages the acceleration of the NAWASA development and expansion program in the next years.

He stresses that this will spare the NAWASA of numerous criticisms, many of which are not justified because in the face of the population explosion and inadequate facilities, it had to cope with a problem of crisis proportions.

Paying tribute to the NAWASA officials who, instead of throwing up their hands in despair, methodically and systematically mapped out a program of expansion the President says definite and tangible progress is being achieved, but this should be no reason for complacency.

He concludes that the NAWASA can be and should be a smoothly functioning organization, because government officials are no less skilled nor less dedicated and industrious than their private counterparts.

**June 19**—AS THE NATION pauses to commemorate the 104th birth anniversary of the national hero, Dr. Jose P. Rizal, President Macapagal calls upon all Filipinos, particularly the youth, to ponder upon the true meaning of the role played by Dr. Rizal “in the great drama of nation-building.”

In a message he issues on the occasion, the President states that “Rizal helped unfold the first part of this drama with his life and labors and gave initial impetus to the Freedom Movement in 1896 with his martyrdom.”

The Chief Executive continues: “We, to whom he addressed his message of hope, must now pool our national resources and rededicate ourselves to the common task of bringing about a better life for our people.

“We must renew our pledge to pursue Rizal’s unwavering fight for freedom and formulate basic policies that will attain for our people freedom from poverty, disease, illiteracy and other ills which beset our society today as much as they did in the days of Rizal.”

The President also designates Aurelio Montinola Sr. to conduct an investigation of the train collision in La Union. Montinola, a well-known business and civic leader, will look into the circumstances behind the accident and ascertain the parties responsible for it.

Arriving in Malacañang at 11:55 a.m., the President seeks the seclusion of his private study to work on bills passed during the last regular session of Congress.

The President has only until midnight to act on all the bills.

In the afternoon, the President motors to the Phil-Am life auditorium on United Nations Avenue to present the awards to the country’s ten outstanding students.

The Chief Executive, in his address to the outstanding students, appeals to the country’s youth to develop a “social conscience” like that of Dr. Jose P. Rizal for “there is still suffering to alleviate, poverty to fight, crime to combat and shame and abomination to wash away.”

“Life,” the President reminds the youthful awardees, “regardless of where it is lived, is empty and pointless if it is self-centered and selfish; it is useless unless it is lived in the service of others, unless it derives, its happiness from the happiness that it can give to fellowmen.”

But to live a truly useful life, the President requires the development of one’s social conscience which “connotes not just the ability to distinguish right from wrong, but implies the possession of compassion, understanding, sympathy and generosity.”

“Your heart should go out to the less fortunate; it should beat and throb with an abiding concern for others; it should understand the problems that others face, and it should be generous with offers of aid in the solution of those problems,” he states.

He likewise enjoins the awardees to “develop integrity in yourselves” for “integrity is your armor against the evils of life and men and the lance to conquer odds.”

This years’ awardees are: (1) Ricardo V. Puno, Jr., most outstanding student of 1965, bachelor of arts, cum laude, Ateneo de Manila; (2) Mary Anne G. Abella, bachelor of science in commerce, magna cum laude Asumption Convent; (3) Evaline Rose Arandela, bachelor of science in education, Central Philippines University, Iloilo City; (4) Jose B. Colayco Jr., bachelor of science in engineering, cum laude, De La Salle College; (5) Oscar L. Contreras, Jr., bachelor of arts, magna cum laude, San Beda College; (6) Oswaldo A. Esperat, bachelor of arts, cum laude, Siliman Centro Escolar University; (8) Eminiano A. Readica, Jr. bachelor of science University; (7) Yolanda Maria A. Lim, bachelor of science in chemistry, in business administration, sumraa cum laude, University of the East; (9) Leilani O. Roslin, bachelor of arts, magna cum laude, St. Scholastica’s College; and (10) Benjamin G. Tayabas, bachelor of arts, magna cum laude, Philippine Christian College.

The award ceremony coincides with the 104th birth anniversary of Rizal.

After his speech, the President returns to Malacañang for a brief rest and then motors to San Pablo City after he had finished working on ail the 553 bills passed by Congress during its regular session, to address a proclamation rally late midnight.

Among the bills signed by the President:

1) an administration bill appropriating P8 million to implement the recent amendment to the Minimum Wage Law raising the salaries of national government employees to P6 a day effective July 1, 1965;

2) a bill which seeks to prohibit and penalize wiretapping and other related violations of privacy and communications;

3) a bill prohibiting and penalizing the collection of contributions from schoolchildren of public primary and intermediate schools, except in connection with the membership drives of the Red Cross;

4) an act re-establishing the venue of criminal and civil action for damages in cases of written defamations. Under the new libel law, inspired by the recent filing of libel cases in far-off places to harass especially newspapermen, such actions shall be filed simultaneously or separately with the court of first instance of the province or city where the libelous article is printed and first published or where any of the offended parties actually resides at the time of the commission of the offense;

5) a bill requiring candidates for public elective offices to post a surety bond equivalent to one-year salary of the position for which they are candidates, which bond shall be forfeited in favor of the government if they fail to obtain at least 10 per cent of the votes cast for the office for which they had filed their certificates of candidacy;

6) an act increasing the range of minimum and maximum salaries allowable for civil service eligibilities;

7) amending the law creating the Board of National Education to enable it to become the authoritative source of policies on education in the country by providing it with a permanent secretariat, technical facilities for adequate research, surveys, evaluation and recording, changing the composition of the Board into one made up of educators of experience and high reputation rather than of representatives of diverse bodies and/or educational administrators, and reducing the number from 15 to 9 so that its functions will not be paralyzed by the difficulty of obtaining a quorum;

8) establishing a National Historical Commission taking the place of the National Heroes Commission and the Philippine Historical Committee;

9) amending the Social Security Act by doing away with the employers' 20 per cent additional contribution for sickness benefits to its employees and establishing a time limit within which claims for reimbursement should be adjudicated and settled;

10) eliminating the conflict of jurisdiction between the Philippine Coconut Administration and the Agricultural Cooperative and Financing Administration over the organization and supervision of cooperatives of coconut planters and processors;

11) amending the Philippine Immigration Act of 1940 so as to include as non-quota immigrants who may be admitted into the country natural-born citizens who have been naturalized in a foreign country and desire to return for permanent residence.

Among bills vetoed by the President were Senate Bill No. 925 which seeks to prohibit discrimination in any form in the employment of persons by any person, corporation, firm or association and House Bill No. 2461, an act reclassifying the position of postal inspector and providing a higher salary range therefor.

In vetoing Senate bill No. 925, the President points out that he took into consideration the reasons given by three Philippine organizations of businessmen as to why the bill should not be approved.

The Philippine Association composed of representatives of the Bankers Association, the Chamber of Agriculture and Natural Resources and other commercial firms; the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines; and the Management Association of the Philippines urged the veto of the bill on the following grounds:

1) Section 1 of the bill would create more problems for local business men than for foreign corporations. Strictly and fundamentally, management prerogatives such as the choice of allowances for making employees stay may be interfered with by unscrupulous labor leaders or agitators;

2) implementation of the bill will be made difficult because the determination of individual merit and reasonable allowance are prerogatives that management alone is competent to exercise;

3) the bill may discourage critically-needed foreign experts, particularly trainers, from coming to the Philippines;

4) the act fails to consider the fact that living standards in other countries are different from the standard of living in the Philippines;

5) the bill may be used as a tool to harass foreign companies and may even be a fertile source of graft and corruption for enforcement agencies;

6) the proviso to Section 2 (line 16-19) may deter foreign owned companies from sending their Filipino personnel to train abroad;

7) Filipino-owned companies unable to match the salary standards of foreign companies will lose managerial personnel to international organizations—aggravating the critical shortage here of top executive talent; and

8) the provision for stiff penalty, which may come about as a result of unscrupulous employees, will frighten away foreign investors and make domestic capitalists, more timid.

In vetoing House Bill No. 2461, the President states that the bill is objectionable on the following grounds:

1) raising the position of Postal Inspectors without a corresponding increase in all the other 2,850 classes and 306,000 positions in the Classification Plan would disrupt horizontally and vertically the Pay Plan (Re organization Plan No. 2-A), which was promulgated to provide a continuing program of position classification and standardization pay;

2) the position of Postal Inspector has been recommended for upgrading from range 45 to range 47, funds for the implementation of which are included in the Salary Standardization Fund in the current General Appropriation Act and in the President's Budget for fiscal year 1966, thus substantially complying with the intent and purpose of the bill; and

3) piecemeal legislation on salaries of certain class of positions is discriminatory and unfair to the other class and partakes of class legislation.

Meantime, President Macapagal calls upon the officers and members of the Government Prosecutors' League of the Philippines to involve itself in the problems besetting the country.

In a speech read for him by Rep. Jovito R. Salonga, Rizal, during the induction ceremonies of the Government Prosecutors' League of the Philippines, the President tells the group to heed to the compulsion that the Great Malayan felt to do everything he could to help his suffering countrymen.

The Chief Executive notes that in an 'indirect but incontestable way, Rizal was responsible for the freedom that we now enjoy today.'

"In his compelling desire to get involved, he fanned the embers of freedom into a searing flame that consumed colonialism and brought enlightenment to the minds of men," the President states.

He points out that it is fortunate that involvement today does not necessarily entail the payment of the supreme sacrifice. But the fruits of such involvement are just important, just as significant and the penalty that must be paid for non-involvement can be tragic, he adds.

"Involvement," he said, should connote "a desire to participate in community affairs, a wish to share in nation-building, a compulsion to do what is right and to eschew what is evil."

The President warns that if the citizens do not get involved and persist in maintaining that community development, civic beautification and clean elections, are the concern only of the government and not of the private citizens, "the result will be stagnation, perhaps even decay."

He points out that there remains a vast area for improvement and the opportunities for involvement are still limitless.

"If we are apathetic and indifferent, if we are lazy and uncaring, the opportunities will pass, and we will have reneged on our responsibility to do what is right and good for our people," the President concludes.

*Source:* **National Library**

## **President's Week in Review: June 20-26, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**June 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal approves the promotion of 15 regular officers and one reserve officer of the Philippine Air Force.

Waking up early in the morning, the President immediately works on official papers in his study the whole morning.

Then he motors to Baguio City to attend a grand proclamation rally of national Liberal Party candidates.

Arriving in Baguio at 4:00 p. m., the President receives military honors rendered by Philippine Military Academy cadets at the Burham Park. Then he proceeds to the residence of City Mayor Norberto de Guzman for a brief rest and press interview with the local news and radio men.

At 6 p. m. the President proceeds to the Market Plaza for the rally. In the evening, he confers with local officials at the Mansion House.

**June 21.**—AFTER a 40-minute conference with Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez, President Macapagal back at Malacañang decides “the Philippines maintains its decision to attend the Afro-Asian conference which is slated in Algiers late this month.

The President makes this decision after being informed that Algier's President Ahmed Ben Bella was deposed in a bloodless coup led by Col. Houari Boumdiene, who ruled the vast North African nation since it gained independence from France in 1962.

The President likewise signs a proclamation extending the national educational and fund campaign of the Elks Cerebral Palsy Project, Inc. up to August 31.

The campaign, due to expire June 30, is extended to enable the project to realize its quota of P300,000 with which to continue its activities, aimed at improving the lot of cerebral palsy victims and preparing them for useful lives.

In the morning, the President meets at breakfast with Liberal Party members of the Senate on matters of legislation.

At noon, the Chief Executive receives a delegation from Samar led by Reps. Felipe Abrigo and Eladio Balite who witnessed the reenactment of the signing into law of House Bill No. 2587 creating the provinces of Northern Samar, Eastern Samar and Western Samar.

In the afternoon, the President in a series of conferences meets with members of Congress headed by Speaker Protempore Salipada K. Pendatun as well as with provincial governors and other local officials on matters concerning their respective localities.

In the evening, the President reenacts the signing of House Bill No. 8349 authorizing the Mayor of the City of Manila to establish and operate a City University of Manila, in the presence of Mayor Antonio Villegas, Rep. Justo Albert of Manila who sponsored the bill, and other officials.

Afterwards, the President immediately seeks the seclusion of his private study to work on state papers.

**June 22.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring Thursday June 24 a special public holiday in Manila on the occasion of the observance of *Araw ng Maynila*. The city commemorates its 394th founding anniversary on this day.



In his proclamation, the President calls attention to Manila's historical role as a symbol of our national unity and indeed, the very seat of our national identity."

At the same time, the President announces the nomination of former Gov. Gregorio Santayana of Quezon as member of the Commission on Elections. Santayana succeeds Sixto Brillantes who had completed his nine-year term in the commission. The nominee is chief of Malacañang's local governments division.

Early in the morning, the Chief Executive boards the presidential train for Lopez, Quezon at the Sta. Mesa railroad station.

After lunch and a public rally in Lopez, the President continues on to Naga City.

Arriving Naga City at 4:30 p.m., the President inaugurates the new regional office building of the Government Service Insurance System. The First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, cuts the ceremonial ribbon.

Then the President addresses a mammoth rally where he tells the people of Bicolandia that the railroad rehabilitation program would be completed by the end of the year.

The Chief Executive states that although the rehabilitation and modernization of the railroad entailed an estimated expenditure of P82-million, the project would nevertheless have been pushed through because of its importance to the national economy.

The President adds that the lifting of controls which had deprived producers of the full peso equivalent of the dollar value for their products has led to increased production, better prices and greater profits for export products, especially copra.

After the rally, the President leaves Naga City at 11 p.m. by car for Legaspi City to board the presidential ship for Tacloban City.

**June 23.**—WHILE the House-Senate controversies over the proposed slashes on the budget indicated no prospect of a final settlement—posing a threat of paralysis in government operations if agreement is not reached before Congress adjourns its special session tomorrow. President Macapagal appeals for enactment of the general appropriations bill, stating that he will not certify additional measure for the special session unless the budget is passed.

Meanwhile swift floodwaters sweeping through several towns in Albay early in the morning nearly forces a change of schedule in the President's trip to Tacloban City.

The floods are caused by an almost continuous heavy rain which has been hitting the Bicol Peninsula for several days.

Due to a breakdown in the communications system, it is only when the presidential motorcade reaches Iriga, Camarines Sur at past 4 a.m. when the President is informed that it would be dangerous to proceed to Legaspi City by car because of the knee-deep rain water that covers the roads and bridges in Polangui, Albay.

Determined, however, to reach Legaspi City where he would board the RPS "21" for Tacloban, the President takes a heavy, diesel engined passenger bus which slowly ploughs through the flooded area in Polangui.

The President boards the RPS "21" at about 7 a.m. He was originally scheduled to sail for Tacloban City at 1:30 a.m.

On board the presidential ship, the President spends the rest of the day working on official papers he brought along on the trip.

**June 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrives Tacloban City at 4 p.m. to officiate at the proclamation rally of the Liberal party national candidates.

After receiving military honors from a contingent of PC troopers, the President proceeds to the Sto. Niño church where a *Te Deum* is sung in his honor.

Then he motors to the St. Paul College gymnasium where he addresses a conference of public school teachers; national, provincial and municipal officials and employees and barrio captains.

After his speech, the President hears local officials who presents to him some of their pressing problems.

Then the President proceeds to the residence of Gov. Romualdez where he holds an interview with local news and radio men.

At 9 p.m., the President addresses a proclamation rally at the Plaza 30 de Diciembre.

In his speech, the President tells the people that the Administration will make Leyte and Samar the connecting links of a national industrial chain to hasten the economic development of the country.

The President explains that his Administration would promptly carry out its plan for a Pan Philippine Highway that would link Luzon to Mindanao through these two eastern Visayan island provinces. The P500-million Pan Philippine highway will be completed in four years.

With its completion, the President states, Samar and Leyte will serve as stepping stones while the Bicol region will be a sprawling corridor along the main avenue for the greater bulk of domestic commerce and movement of people throughout the country.

After the rally, the President re-boards the presidential ship RPS “21” at 10 p.m. for Iloilo City.

Meanwhile, the Chief Executive receives a report that the land reform program launched by his Administration is serving as a great incentive to increased productivity.

In a progress report on land reform operations submitted to the President, Benjamin Gozon, NLRC chairman and LRPA administrator, discloses that the rice production in the pilot area in Plaridel, Bulacan had realized a fairly substantial increase of 29.80 per cent or an average of 13.02 cavans per hectare over the harvest of the preceding year, before the advent of land reform.

The eight-page report which embodied a candid appraisal of achievements in the course of the implementation of the land reform program, is among the papers brought along by the President in his current trip to the Visayas, for study.

Gozon also reports that some 43,000 farm families in land reform areas, landed estates, and settlements will be the recipients of food assistance from the United Nations World Food Program.

He states that the National Land Reform Council has received so far, 38 tons of canned pork, 16 tons of canned fish, and 15 tons of dried fish. These commodities, Gozon says, will be distributed on credit, repayable within a period not exceeding five months.

Gozon also states that the UN World Food Program is further committed to turn over to the National Land Reform Council another shipment of 162 tons of canned meat, 34 tons of canned fish, and 85 tons of dried fish to complete its commitment of food assistance. An additional \$1.7 million worth of foodstuff is expected to arrive not later than August, 1965.

Gozon concludes his report with the following recommendations to the President: 1) immediate release to the Agricultural Credit Administration of P25 *million* for credit assistance to farmers in land reform areas; 2) outright approval of the Executive Order releasing 1,000 hectares in Fort Bonifacio to the Land Bank; and 3) approval of the Administrative Order creating the Presidential Committee to represent the Philippines in the Philippine-U.S. Joint Committee for Land Reform Education.

**June 25.**—WITH Fifth Congress adjourning sine die still unable to break an impasse over the controversial allowances for Congressmen in the 1965-1966 General Appropriations Bill (Budget)—the only measure submitted by him for consideration of the special session, President Macapagal indicates willingness to call another special session on the budget and other vital bills if the House and the Senate leaders came out with assurance that the national budget would be enacted.

The bill, which would provide funds for the operations of the government starting Thursday (July 1), is caught by adjournment time still stuck in the Senate-House conference committee formed to reconcile conflicting provisions of the House and Senate versions of the bill.

At the same time, the President, on board the RPS “21” en route to Iloilo City, accepts the resignation of Economic Coordinator Eleuterio Adevosio and SSS Administrator Bernardino Abes. The duo resigned to devote their full time to the management of the Liberal Party campaign operation— Adevosio as operations chief and Abes” as head of the organization.

In their places, the President designates Cebu Governor Rene Espina as administrator of economic coordination and Development Bank Governor Jovino Lorenzo, as concurrently SSS administrator.

The Chief Executive also directs various government agencies to extend all possible assistance to victims of a recent fire which reportedly rendered hundreds of families homeless in Naga City.

The President issues the directive upon being informed of the conflagration which was said to have lasted for five hours and wrought damage to homes and business establishments estimated at from P2 to P3 million.

In a wire dispatched to Malacañang, the President instructs Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio to direct the: 1) Social Welfare Administration to extend prompt relief to victims in the form of foodstuffs, clothing and other basic needs of the sufferers; 2) Department of Health to attend to the medical needs of the hapless families and to prevent the possible outbreak of diseases in the area; and 3) Philippine Constabulary to help the local police agency in the maintenance of peace and order in the locality and to keep unscrupulous merchants from taking advantage of the situation to victimize city residents, especially the poor.

The President arrives at Iloilo City at 4:30 p.m. and is accorded military honors.

He officiates at the laying of the cornerstone of a new Central Bank branch building.

After the ceremonies, the President attends a proclamation rally. Then he boards the ship at 11 p.m. for Cebu City.

**June 26.**—DUE to the congestion of ships and cargoes at the South Harbor which raises threats of a possible surcharge on Manila-bound cargoes by shipping companies which in the long run would have the effect of hiking prices all around, President Macapagal orders National Defense Secretary Macario Peralta Jr. to study and take immediate action on a proposal of Customs Commissioner Alberto de Joya to use elements of the armed forces in easing congestion in the port.

The President arrives in Manila by plane at 7:30 a.m. from Bacolod City where the RPS “21” took him after the proclamation rally in Iloilo. The President’s plane, “Common Man,” takes off from Bacolod because the Iloilo airport had been rendered unfit for heavy aircraft by several days of heavy rains.

Arriving at the Nichols Airbase, the President confers briefly with Speaker Cornelio Villareal on the advisability of calling another special session.

After the conference, the President proceeds to Malacañang where he inducts former Gov. Gregorio Santayana of Quezon as member of the Commission on Elections. Santayana replaces Sixto Brillantes who retired upon the expiration of nine-year term last June 20.

At 2 p.m., the President re-boards the presidential Fokker plane “Common Man” for Cebu City where he addresses a huge proclamation rally at the City’s plaza in the evening.

In his speech during the rally, the President reiterates his determination to fight poverty “so that the greater masses of our people who have always been denied the chance, can now enjoy the blessings of the Good Life.”

The President explains that the administration’s fight against poverty is “a battle to which I shall commit myself and the nation’s resources, knowing fully well that it will be for the good of our countrymen.”

He cites such administration accomplishments as land reform, rural electrification, low-cost housing and multi-storey tenement houses, implementation of the new minimum wage law, increasing agricultural production, and growth of basic industries as “concrete manifestations of our concern for the people’s welfare.”

After the rally, the President proceeds to the residence of Mayor Sergio Osmeña Jr. where he stays for the night.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: June 27 – July 3, 1965

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**June 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, aboard the *RPS 21*, as he sails back to Manila from a weeklong trip to the South busied himself in his cabin with official papers.

The President right after partaking breakfast works the whole day on state papers he had brought along on the trip.

In the evening, the President hears mass officiated by Fr. Tranquilino Cruz, Philippine Navy chaplain, before an improvised altar on the ship's deck.

After the mass, the President resumes working up to midnight.

The Chief Executive boarded the ship at 4:30 a.m. following a mammoth rally at the Freedom Park in Cebu City where he proclaimed LP national candidates to the people of Cebu.

**June 28.**—DISEMBARKING at 7 a.m. at Batangas, Batangas, President Macapagal motors to San Pablo City for an on-the-spot survey of the damage wrought by a fire which razed four blocks of commercial establishments and residential houses in that city.

During his inspection of the still-smouldering fire area, the President issues the following directives to Social Welfare Administrator Jose O. Pelayo: (1) to give additional assistance to the fire sufferers and to continue the aid as long as necessary; and (2) to make arrangements with different government financial institutions for the granting of loans, particularly to market vendors to enable them to start business anew.

The President arrives at the fire scene at 8:10 a.m. and is met by the fire victims who profusely thanked him for his surprise visit and for the immediate assistance extended them by the government through the Social Welfare Administration.

The Chief Executive also instructs City Mayor Zacarias Ticzon to submit a consolidated report on the fire damage to determine the exact nature and the amount of assistance that the government may extend.

Then the President proceeds direct to the Philippine Navy headquarters on Roxas boulevard from San Pablo City to formally commission two hydrofoils, the *RPS Camiguin* and *RPS Siquijor*, into the service of the Philippine Navy.

In commissioning the vessels during ceremonies at the navy head quarters, the President underscores the "resolution of this Republic to defend within its utmost capabilities its sovereignty by utilizing all the resources at its command to develop its forces for national defense and national welfare."

The two hydrofoils, costing \$950,000 from Italy, is specifically purchased to augment the naval forces' anti-smuggling drive.

In a brief remark during the ceremonies, the President points out that "we cannot remain complacent and passive in our effort to rid the country of what perhaps is the greatest single deterrent to our economic development—smuggling."

The President says he was happy to note that the navy is accomplishing a great deal in the anti-smuggling drive.

He recalls that since 1962 and up to June 26 of this year, the navy alone arrested 2,079 persons engaged in smuggling, apprehended 300 boats and seized a total of P36-million worth of smuggled goods.

This record of apprehension by the Philippine Navy surpasses any previous record of any government agency engaged in the drive, he adds.

The President arrived at the PN headquarters at 10 a.m.

After the ceremonies, the President boards the *RPS Camiguin* for a trial run on Manila Bay while the RPS “Siquijor” follows behind.

At the same time, the President instructs Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz to ask Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources Jose Y. Feliciano to submit a report on an alleged irregularity at the Bureau of Plant Industry.

The directive closely follows a published report that the Bureau had purchased over P10 million worth of insecticides from one chemical company since 1957. The report also states that the purchases are much more than what the Bureau needs and as a result, most of them are rotting away,

In the afternoon, the President accompanied by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, motors to Dagupan City for a proclamation rally of Liberal Party candidates.

Arriving at 3 p.m., the President proceeds to the city church where a *Te Deum* is sung in his honor.

From the church, the President proceeds to the residence of Mayor Liberato Reyna where he met local press and radio representatives for an interview.

Then the President officiates at the inauguration of the Dagupan Super Market, with Mrs. Macapagal cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

The Chief Executive then proclaims the official LP candidates before a huge rally at the city’s public plaza.

In his speech, the President cautions the electorate against ever entrusting national affairs to “men of violence and greed whose only passion is to make money and whose only concern is to promote their vested interests.”

“Whatever progress we have made as a nation will be set back by decades,” the President asserts, “if our people ever place in power men who act rashly, who believe in violence as a solution to problems, who are concerned not with the ideal of helping the poor but with ideas of exploiting them.”

The President states that “at this crucial stage of our history, when we are ready to negotiate the turn to modernization, our people can ill afford to have as leaders men who are bankrupt in programs and ideals, in ethics and competence; men who try to outsmart instead of help our people; men obsessed with one thought only—how to make money for themselves.”

After the rally, the First Couple motors back to Manila.

**June 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal orders the outright implementation of salary increases for government employees.

The President also directs the suspension of expenditures for less important projects of the government in order to make funds available for the salary increases.

The Chief Executive, in issuing the twin directives to Budget Commissioner Faustino Sychangco before hundreds of cheering government employees at the Palace grounds, orders that the salary increases involving an expenditure of P11.8 million for the (last quarter) current fiscal year be made effective April 1, 1965.

In the morning, the President works on state papers at his desk in the seclusion of his study room.

Later in the afternoon, the President administers the oath of office to Jovino Lorenzo, member of the board of governors of the Development Bank of the Philippines, as concurrently Administrator of the Social Security System. Lorenzo takes the place vacated by former Administrator Bernardino Abes who resigned to devote his time to the LP campaign.

In the evening, the President attends the Liberal Party grand proclamation rally at Plaza Miranda in Quiapo to climax the series of LP rallies staged in different cities of the country.

In his speech, the President states that “graft has been eliminated in the high echelons of government; the restoration of free enterprise has created a boon in export products and construction as well as a new militant class of entrepreneurs; our people have awakened from years of lethargy and now look to the future with spirit and confidence; every Filipino now realizes he can enjoy the blessings of the good life.”

“The accomplishments of this administration are geared to ensuring a bright future for us,” the President notes. “They are far-reaching in significance and they are calculated to solve centuries-old problems for the benefit of future generations.”

**June 30.**—BEFORE boarding the *RPS 21* for a three-day tour of Leyte del Sur and Surigao del Sur, President Macapagal issues a proclamation calling Congress anew into another special session exclusively on the budget for two days, or such number of days as may be necessary but not to exceed thirty days.

The Chief Executive’s move properly shifts the responsibility of passing a budget to the two chambers of Congress so that the government may usher into its new fiscal year with a general appropriations act. Under the Constitution, only Congress could appropriate funds for disbursements to finance the operations of the government. f

In calling Congress to a second special session, the President stresses the need of enacting a budget in order to salvage the government from an inevitable dilemma of entering into a new fiscal year without a budget.

The President likewise directs Solicitor General Arturo Alafritz to exhaust all legal means to prevent an increase of Meralco electric rates. His action is aimed at protecting the people of Manila and surrounding towns from the hardships that the increase in Meralco rates could bring about.

The President leaves Malacañang for Batangas at 9 a.m. to board the presidential ship *RPS “21,”* after about a four-hour rest following the grand proclamation rally of LP national candidates at Plaza Miranda.

Boarding the ship at 11 a.m., the President seeks the seclusion of his cabin to work on official papers he brought along. He works till midnight.

**July 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues an administrative order creating a committee for Land Reform Education which would represent the Philippines in the joint Philippine-U.S. Committee for Land Reform Education.

The joint committee is to discuss the disposition of a special fund provided for Land Reform Education under the U.S.-Philippine War Damage legislation. The U.S. legislation provides for an additional \$73 million in war damage payments to the Philippines, out of which some \$23 million would be utilized for land reform education in the Philippines.

The functions of the committee are:

(1) To negotiate with the U.S. Government on the implementation of the Joint Communique as regards land reform education;

(2) To guide and direct the development of the Philippine program concerning land reform education, more particularly to achieve the following objectives:

(a) to arouse greater public awareness of the land reform program as embodied in R. A. 3844, otherwise known as the Agricultural Land Reform Code, in order to win public support, maintain goodwill and, in general, gain acceptance of the broad philosophy and concept of the program;

(b) to harness all available resources, human and material, at all levels of Philippine community life, towards a balanced development of a program for land reform;

(c) to enable it to cooperate with public and/or private institutions working along the same objectives of rural development, locally or abroad;

(d) to provide a situation which would enable the farmer to decide for himself and work towards the needed changes in his group structure, the barrio;

(e) to enable the farmer to recognize his own role in effecting the changes and to accept the responsibilities that will change patterns of doing and thinking, to achieve, through this program, a truly viable society for the country;

(3) to facilitate the establishment of the administrative and organizational machinery that would insure the effective coordination of organized programs on land reform education, such as farmer education, teachers' institutes on land reform, technician training, community education and information, land owners re-orientation; and

(4) to perform such other functions as would effect the proper implementation of the Joint Communique concerning land reform education.

The President, still aboard the RPS "21" en route to Leyte, also gives the nod to the nominations of two foreign envoys as their countries' ambassador to the Philippines. Given Presidential approval for assignment here are Swedish Consul General in Istanbul Gustaf Harald Edelstam and Laotian Ambassador to Vietnam Chau Nith Nokham.

Edelstam replaces Baron Louis de Geer, who is being reassigned while Nokham holds his diplomatic post here in a concurrent position, with residence in Saigon.

Working on a pile of official papers the whole day in the seclusion of his cabin, the President also approves the nomination of Wesley Clifford Heraldson as director of the United States AID mission to the Philippines and the appointment of Dr. Carlos Alfaro as consul *ad honorem* of the Philippines in San Salvador, El Salvador. Heraldson, who joined the U.S. foreign service in 1945, replaces James H. Ingersoll.

Dr. Alfaro's appointment as consul *ad honorem* is recommended by the Department of Foreign Affairs in order to exploit and develop to the maximum the benefits of increased international commerce and promote Philippine products as well as disseminate vital information about the Philippines in that most stable democratic country in Latin America.

The Chief Executive likewise approves the conferment of the Order of Sikatuna, rank of datu, on Ambassador A.M. Malik of Pakistan to the Philippines.

Presentation of the decoration, the second highest in the Order of Sikatuna, is recommended by Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez, "in recognition of his (Ambassador Malik's) signal services to the people of the Philippines in his official and private capacity."

Ambassador Malik is scheduled to leave the country to assume a new post as High Commissioner of Pakistan to the Commonwealth of Australia.



In the evening, the President arrives at Maasin, Leyte del Sur. He was originally scheduled to arrive at 2 p.m., but his arrival in this province was pushed back by some four hours because of a delay in his departure from Manila on account of the Plaza Miranda grand rally.

From the wharf, the President proceeds to the church where a *Te Deum* is sung in his honor.

Then the President addresses a big rally where he also introduced the LP candidates.

Earlier in the evening, the President instructs Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz to direct Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad to submit a full report on the public school building program and Secretary of Health Manuel A. Cuenco on steps being taken to avert a possible outbreak of rainy season diseases.

Meantime, President Macapagal hails the Colombo Plan for making possible the great strides that have been taken in the development of Asian nations, including the Philippines.

“The Colombo Plan, which is 15 years old today, provides one of the finest examples of how cooperation among nations can lead to faster economic development and greater stability,” the President states.

He points out that “as beneficiaries of the Colombo Plan’s invaluable training programs, our people have been helped tremendously in their quest for a better life and to end the chains of poverty that have long enslaved their forebears.”

“In behalf of the Filipino people, I express felicitations to the Colombo Plan on its fifteenth anniversary and our sincerest wishes that it continue to keep up the good work it has done in our region,” the President concludes.

**July 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal orders an inquiry into conditions in jails all over the country.

Through Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz, the President directs acting Prisons Director Diosdado Aguiluz to submit a report to be used as basis for future executive and legislative action.

The President directive is spurred by two recent prison riots, one at the Davao penal colony and the other at the Muntinlupa national penitentiary.

In issuing the directive, the Chief Executive states it seems much remains to be done to upgrade facilities in the country’s penal institutions.

Secretary Diaz reveals that in addition to executive measures, remedial steps to improve the penal system will be included in bills which the President will certify to Congress in its next regular session.

The President also directs Secretary Diaz to authorize the release of P5 million for the construction of seven additional irrigation systems in widely-separated parts of the country.

The P5 million will be utilized to finance the completion of national irrigation projects in Bulacan, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Cagayan, Ilocos Norte, Negros Occidental and Cotabato. Upon completion, these gravity irrigation systems will provide water to 67,000 hectares of land. The systems are in Abulog (15,000 hectares), Angat Extension (5,000 hectares), Bago (20,000 hectares), Bolo (1,700 hectares), Kabacan (5,300 hectares), Tarlac (10,000 hectares) and Pampanga-Bongabon (10,000 hectares).

The President arrives in San Francisco, Leyte del Sur at 8:45 a.m.

From the wharf, the President proceeds to the still unfinished town’s church where a *Te Deum* is sung in his honor.

Then he addresses a huge crowd citing the administration's accomplishments as milestones in the country's march to progress.

He says that a "golden era of socio-economic development" will unfold for the country if the Liberals are given a new and clearer mandate by the people.

After the rally, the President boards the *RPS 21* for the trip to Bislig, Surigao del Sur.

The President also receives a resolution of thanks from the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines for his veto of Senate Bill No. 925, otherwise known as the Anti-Discrimination Bill.

"The President, in giving heed to the Chamber's voice, made it clear that he counts on the Chamber's guidance and counsel whenever questions affecting Filipino business and the economy as a whole are concerned, and this attitude has consequently strengthened our hopes that whenever we have problems requiring his intervention, the President will listen to us again," the resolution added.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal extends his felicitations to Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands on the announcement of her engagement to Claus-Georg Von Amsberg.

Princess Beatrix was a state visitor in this country in 1963.

The President, in his message, states: "It is with joy that Mrs. Macapagal and I received the news announced by Her Majesty about Your Highness' engagement to Mr. Claus-Georg Von Amsberg. Permit us to join Your Highness and your betrothed in the happiness you share over this memorable event and, on behalf of the Filipino people, we extend to you both heartfelt felicitations on this auspicious occasion. May the Al mighty bestow His blessings on Your Highness and Mr. Amsberg for a happy wedded life."

**July 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal states that another safeguard to the freedom of the press in this country has been acquired with the establishment of a new P200 -million Paper Industries Corporation's pulp and paper mill.

The President makes the statement shortly before he officiated at the cornerstone laying of the paper factory which will supply the newsprint requirements of the Philippines. The factory will be set up in Bislig, Surigao del Sur.

"As long as newsprint is imported, the freedom of the press cannot be guaranteed," the President adds.

The Chief Executive says that the establishment of the paper factory is another concrete manifestation of the tremendous economic advances which have been made during this administration.

He specifically mentions the multi-million peso Delta Manufacturing Corporation's meat canning plant in Pasig, Rizal and the integrated Iligan Steel Mill as two other industrial ventures among many which were established and encouraged "under the system of free enterprise that we now enjoy."

Earlier, the President inaugurates the P1.8 million hospital of the Bislig Bay Lumber Company, also in Bislig, Surigao del Sur, the most modern and completely equipped hospital in Mindanao.

The President also officiates at the ground breaking of the first unit of the lumber company's plywood mill.

After lunch, the President meets with local leaders, who takes him on a tour of Bislig town.

The tour ends at Barrio Mañagoy, where the President addresses a rally.

From there, he boards the presidential ship *RPS 21* for the return trip to Manila.

*Source:* **National Library**

**President's Week in Review: July 4-10, 1965**

## **President's Week in Review: July 11-17, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**July 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues a proclamation authorizing the Philippine Tuberculosis Society to conduct a national fund and educational campaign from August 16 to September 30 this year.

In issuing the proclamation, the President calls on all citizens and residents of the Philippines, to give generously “so that we may protect ourselves from a dreadful disease (tuberculosis).”

The Chief Executive observes that for the last 55 years, the Philippine Tuberculosis Society, Inc. (PTS) had been of immense help to the government in its crusade against the White Plague which he said, saps the vitality of the people and decreases their productivity, especially at this time of expanding industrialization.

He points out that it is only through the unstinted moral and financial support of the people that the PTS can continue to maintain and intensify its health services for the benefit of the public.

The President spends the whole day in his private study working on voluminous state papers.

After partaking of a light breakfast, the President goes over the Sunday newspapers.

Noticing a letter to the editor of a morning daily that housing project awardee's of the GSIS in Project 8-C are being charged a monthly amortization of as much as P120 on a 15-year installment plan, the President orders Acting General Manager Juan S. Cancio to find a way by which to reduce the monthly payments.

The President likewise issues a directive to Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco “to take immediate steps to enable the entire national government to continue operating unhampered by lack of a budget.”

The President decrees the directive to enable the national government offices to meet payrolls and other expenditures pending his approval of the general appropriations bill which was passed by Congress only recently and which is now in the process of being printed.

Commissioner Sy-Changco acting on the President's order issues a circular allowing national government agencies to spend one-twelfth of their appropriations for the last fiscal year.

The Budget Commissioner, however, cautions that expenses for new activity, expansion of existing activity, and purchase of equipment are not allowed by the circular. He also adds that these arrangements are sanctioned by Deputy Auditor General Jesus Iriarte.

In the evening, the President hears mass with members of his family at the Palace Chapel.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal calls for a spiritual renaissance in every individual “so that its beneficent flame can bring light and warmth to a needy world.”

In a speech read for him by PIA Director-General Armand Fabella during the reunion of the Second Sunday Recollection at La Ignaciana in Sta. Ana, Manila, the President exhorts the audience to fight the poverty of the spirit which afflicts all.

Observing that the purpose of the assembly was “to be good,” the President says it was not enough for a man to serve himself and cater to his own interests.

“He must serve the public as well and he must be sincere in that service, otherwise he would be unable to serve to the best of his abilities,” he states.

He adds: “To be truly good, a man must broaden his view so that it will not be constricted to his immediate family and to himself. He must expand it so that his suffering fellowmen will be encompassed by it. His heart must be big, so that it can have compassion for others, so that there will be room for sympathy and kindness, for generosity and altruism.”

The President likewise bewails the “let George do it” attitude which, he said, must be eliminated otherwise it would prove to be the undoing of the country.

“Our attitude regarding national problems is somewhat similar—all of us keep talking about them, but how many of us are doing anything about them? We say that we should have a good government, we should have a lower crime rate, we should eliminate graft and having unburdened ourselves of these laudable sentiments, we lean back in our easy chairs and do nothing more.

“We expect somebody else—the government perhaps—to effect all these changes little realizing it can do precious little unless it has the backing and cooperation of the citizenry,” he discloses.

He warns that this let-George-do-it attitude could be the people’s undoing.

**July 12.**— YIELDING to an overwhelming sentiment “in both chamber of Congress against the certification of more bills, President Macapagal decides not to keep the solons longer in special session after the approval of the budget.

According to Assistant Executive Secretary Ignacio Santos Diaz, who is also the presidential executive assistant on legislative affairs, the President considers that the continuation of the special session would mean an unwise expenditure of public funds.

The President makes the decision after a consultation meeting at breakfast with Liberal Party senators -and other Administration leaders including members of his Cabinet on the matter of certifying additional bills to the current special session of Congress and on the so-called congressional allowances.

At 10:30 a.m., the President receives Senator Gaudencio Antonino who called at Malacañang to amplify his position on the so-called congressional allowances as provided in the new budget recently passed by the Congress.

During his call Sen. Antonino also hands down a letter to the President requesting him (President) to veto the allowances of members of both Houses of Congress aggregating to P18.4 million.

In his letter to the President, Sen. Antonino states: “Considering that now you are the only one who can possibly save our people from shouldering the heavy burden of illegal, wanton, wasteful and immoral allowances and inasmuch as the veto would be in line with your State-of-the-Nation address asking members of Congress to reduce their allowances, I trust that you will give my request your careful consideration.” Aside from seeking the veto of the congressional allowances, Antonino also asks the President to disapprove the transfer of funds by the presiding officer of the Senate from one item to another.

The items recommended for veto by Antonino including the P15, 560,000 from the House appropriations are:

- |    |          |          |        |            |             |            |                    |
|----|----------|----------|--------|------------|-------------|------------|--------------------|
| 1. | For      | casual   | and    | emergency  | employees,  | P2         | million;           |
| 2. | For      | purchase | of     | equipment, | P2          | million;   |                    |
| 3. | For      | prior    | year's | printing   | obligation, | P1,        | 560,000;           |
| 4. | For      | prior    | year's | library    | obligation, | P2         | million;           |
| 5. | Vacation | and      | sick   | leave      | and         | retirement | pay, P2.5 million; |

6. Studies and research, P2 million; and
7. Consultants' fund, P2.5 million.

Also recommended for veto are P2 million for the Senate employees homesite and P278,000 for services such as transportation of technical assistants, and P564,460 for salaries of the chairmen and various offices of the Commission on Appointments.

In the evening, the President presides over a meeting of his Cabinet.

During the meeting, the President, upon the endorsement of the Cabinet, approves the steps recommended by Chairman Fernando E. V. Sison, of the Philippine National Railways, to implement the 835-million PNR modernization program designed to double its income by doubling its carrying capacity within three years.

Sison's recommendation, which were taken up in a two-hour long Cabinet meeting at Malacañang, followed his recent mission to Japan to apply for a loan to finance the PNR's modernization which shall be guaranteed through reparations and repaid from the PNR's own increased earnings in ten years.

Concurred in by Economic Coordinator Eleuterio Adevos, Sison's recommendation are:

1. For the PNR to faithfully follow the recommendation of the Japan Engineering Consultants, which drew up the plans to effect PNR reforms including reorganization, personnel training and lay-off of excess personnel;
2. To proceed with the modernization phase only after the crash rehabilitation phase of the PNR has been launched so that PNR can have the means to pay for the modernization loan;
3. To station JEC technicians with the PNR to assure a faithful implementation of the development project; and
4. To have all Philippine government agencies coordinate in negotiating the loan, Sison states that this was strongly urged by the Japanese officials who complained that in the past, negotiations for PNR financing with the Japanese government were undertaken by different Philippine government officials resulting in confusion.

At the same time, the Cabinet takes a major step towards the realization of the long dreamed-about Pan-Philippine Highway by approving the early advertisement of bids for the construction of vital sections in the system. Financing of these portions of the highway will be made under the Private Financing Law, or Republic Act No. 3741.

Programmed to be completed in four years, the highway runs along the length of the country from Aparri in Cagayan to Davao City, cutting across mountains by tunnels and hillside roads, skirting crowded cities through complex interchanges and hopping across channels via bridges and ferries.

"Incalculable are the benefits our nation can get from such a highway," Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad tells President Macapagal and the Cabinet after he had briefed them on what was being done at the moment on the system.

Secretary Abad discloses that already-existing roads which will form part of the highway, particularly those in Cagayan Valley, are being improved and cemented in anticipation of their linkage to the system.

The President later instructs Abad to give "high priority" to the completion of the system because such a highway would bring "untold blessings" to the nation in point of accelerating industrialization and stimulating trade and commerce.

Endorsed by the Cabinet for advertisement are bids for the following sections of the Pan-Philippine Highway:

1. The Manila North Diversion Road in Bulacan, 213 kms. long, which will feature a diamond-type interchange consisting of a two-lane overpass and a four-lane under pass, to bring about smooth traffic flow.
2. The Manila South Diversion Road in Rizal, composed of a concrete interchange, to accelerate movement of vehicular traffic.
3. Bailwag Diversion Road in Bulacan, with a length of 12.2 kms., to ease traffic volume in Bulacan.
4. The Mahaplas-Sogod Section in Leyte, 22 kms. in length.
5. The Allen-Tinambacan Road in Samar, 67.6 kms.
6. The Leyte-Samar Road on the Samar side, 85.5 kms.
7. Ferry Service across San Bernardino Strait, between Sorsogon involving the use of two ferryboats of 600 tons each capable of carrying eight trucks, 15 cars and 200 passengers each.
8. Aparri-Tuguegarao Road in Cagayan, 100 kms. which will be the northern terminal of the system.
9. Ferry Service across Surigao Strait between Panaon Island in Leyte del Sur and Surigao del Norte.
10. Bridge of continuous steel thru-truss across San Juanico Strait, 835 meters in length, to connect Samar and Leyte.
11. Lilo-An Bridge prestressed concrete, 612 meters, across Panaon Strait to connect the island of Leyte with Panaon Island.
12. Liloan-Timba Road in Panaon Island, 40 kms.

After the Caninet meeting, the President receives. Gen. Alfredo M. Santos who called to pay his respects on the eve of his retirement as chief of staff after 29 years of service in the Armed Forces of the Philip pines. Gen. Santos, who will turn 60 the following day, is the most decorated ranking officer of the AFP.

With the retirement of Gen. Santos, Brig. Gen. Rigoberto Atienza, vice chief of staff, automatically assumes the duties of AFP chief of Staff.

Then the President, after a brief rest, resumes working on state papers till past midnight.

**July 13.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal mobilizes all agencies of the executive branch to tackle the country's major problems by administrative means "since it is definite that we cannot get the cooperation of the NP senators in the matter of legislation."

The President starts off the move with a conference on means of curbing smuggling of blue seal cigarettes, considered as the first major problem that the administration would try to solve. It is understood that high prices would be next target.

The Chief Executive's action is an offshoot of Congress' adjournment the day before of its special session with no vital administration measure enacted, except the budget.

Immediately after he announced this policy and decision on smuggling as the first problem to be tackled, the President directs:



1. The tariff Commission and the National Economic Council to make an expeditious study of the possible reduction of tariff duties on cigarettes with a view to removing the profit motive from and thereby minimizing the smuggling of blue-seal cigarettes;
2. The Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration to implement as soon as possible in the current buying season the plan to give advance payments to farmers as they deliver their tobacco for redrying thereby cushioning the effects of reduced tariffs on imported cigarettes; and
3. The Secretary of Justice to vigorously prosecute those who violate the order prohibiting government employees from smoking blue-seal cigarettes.

In calling upon the Tariff Commission and the NEC to study possible reduction of tariffs on imported cigarettes, the President opines that reduction of tariffs would remove the profits from cigarettes smuggling because it would allow legally imported cigarettes to retail at a price of P1.50 per pack "regular" and P2.00 "kingsize." With this move the government is expected to realized an increased revenue of about P1G5 million annually from legitimate importations of cigarettes.

To cushion whatever impact reduction of tariffs would have on local tobacco growers, the President seeks to put into operation during the current buying season and definitely during the next the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration proposes direct payment system designed to eliminate middlemen from the tobacco trading system.

The new payment system is earmarked to enable the farmers to get from 50 to 60 per cent of the value of their tobacco immediately upon delivery to the Farmers Cooperative Marketing Association. The payment would be made to the PVTa in the form of merchandising loans to the FACOMAS.

With the killer typhoon "Freda" still seething with fury—churned out toward the China Sea leaving behind 26 dead, 17 still missing and millions in property damages, President Macapagal orders relief agencies in bringing aid to the typhoon stricken provinces.

As reports of massive destruction continue to come in from provinces directly in the typhoon's destructive path, the President directs Acting Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz to coordinate relief operations in the provinces which had been flooded as a result of typhoon "Freda."

Secretary Diaz, upon receipt of the directive, immediately orders the Social Welfare Administration and the Department of Health to airlift relief and medical teams and supplies to the flood areas, in order to avert hunger and the outbreak of epidemics. He also asks the Philippine Constabulary, the local governments, and the government relief agencies to submit periodic reports on the progress of relief operations, on instructions of the President.

In the afternoon, the President meets the officials of the Reparations Commission on the collection of outstanding accounts of the- commission. The outstanding accounts of the Commission totals some P40 million.

The President, during the meeting, orders the intensification of the collection of outstanding account of the Reparations Commission.

The Chief Executive likewise administer the oath of office to Col. Eugenio Torres as acting chief of the Manila Police Department and to Major General Rigoberto Atienza, AFP vice chief of staff; and other top officers of the armed forces whom he had reappointed following the byf passing of their appointments by the Commission on Appointments.

The other officers are: Brig. Gen. Cesar Lintag, acting deputy chief of staff; Silvino de Goma, third military area commander; Santos Garcia; second military area commander; Felix Maniego, first PC zone commander; Patricio Monzon, inspector general; Commodore Felix Apolinario, vice commander of the Philippine Navy; Col. Arsenio L.

Torres, provost marshal general of the Philippine Army headquarters; and Col. Jose Acevedo, chief of the AFP special operations group.

In the evening, the President receives provincial and city officials who consulted him on matters concerning their respective localities.

Then the President dispatches messages of congratulations to the officers and men of the RPS "Nueva Ecija," skippered by Lt. Serapio Martillano, for their repeated success in combatting smuggling of blue-seal cigarettes.

The President sends two separate messages of congratulations to the Philippine Navy flag officer in command, the first in connection with the apprehension of 450 cases of blue seal cigarettes off Cagayan de Sulu, and the second, on the apprehension of 800 cases of blue seal cigarettes near Taganak, both by the RPS "Nueva Ecija."

In his messages, the President expresses his "firm belief that we can stop economic saboteurs by our intrepid and loyal sailors of the Philippine Navy, like Lt. Martillano and his men."

Meanwhile, President Macapagal receives a report on the achievements of the Philippine contingent now in Viet Nam, which has been credited with 34,841 medical and surgical cases.

The report, forwarded to the President by Secretary of Foreign Affairs Mauro Mendez, covers the period from August, 1964 to May 31, 1965.

"I am pleased to note that even in a small measure, the Philippines has abided by its commitments to the cause of freedom through our medical and surgical teams which are doing a magnificent job in Viet Nam," the President says.

The Civilian Medical Team has made an impressive showing of 27,000 cases handled during the nine-month period. This figure gives the team an average of 90 patients given consultations and treatment daily.

In addition, the team also performs medical civic action work among Vietnamese refugees sometime last January.

The surgical team performs a total of 551 minor and major operations with a mortality of only 10. The newly arrived surgical team have likewise chalked up impressive records. One team attended to 78 cases in 18 days, another performed 162 operations in 22 days.

With this contingent, the Philippines is among the 30 countries which are giving, or have given aid, to South Viet Nam.

The Chief Executive also receives a cablegram from President Lyndon B. Johnson thanking him for his message on the 189th anniversary of American independence last July 4.

**July 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal mobilizes government agencies to render all out relief to victims of Typhoon "Freda" and the subsequent floods which hit Bicolandia, Samar and Cotabato.

In his directives sent through Acting Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz, the President orders:

- 1) The Social Welfare Administration to extend immediate and sufficient relief to all typhoon and flood victims;
- 2) The RCA and the NAMARCO to maintain standby stocks of rice and canned goods to stabilize prices and avert hunger in the afflicted areas;
- 3) The Health Department to send medical teams and medicines to possible outbreaks of epidemics;

4) The Armed Forces of the Philippines to make available PAF planes for mercy flights, and PC troopers to maintain peace and order in the typhoon and flood areas; and

5) The Department of Public Works to undertake emergency repair work on all public works projects, particularly school buildings, with available funds.

The President expresses grave concern over the damage to school-buildings in view of the proximity of the start of the school year.

Following the President's directive to Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz, the Working Sub-Committee of the Presidential Committee on Relief and Rehabilitation meets this afternoon to assess reports from the provinces and to map out plans.

Before leaving Malacañang this morning, the President asks Secretary Diaz to compile reports from the typhoon and flood areas regarding the damage to public works projects, and private property, the number of people affected, and the relief needed, with the View to authorizing the release of necessary funds.

According to representatives of the various government relief agencies, reports are just starting to come in from the affected provinces, and that it will take some time before a reasonably accurate estimate of the damage can be made.

However, Civil Defense Administrator Alfredo Eugenio states he had received reports from Isabela to the effect that all public works project there estimated at P12 million had been totally damaged by the typhoon.

The Social Welfare Administration, on the other hand, has already released P2, 000 for local purchases in Cotabato as initial relief for the 2,000 families in seven towns which had lost their homes and their crops in the floods.

The SWA is still awaiting reports from Mt. Province, Nueva Ecija, and Isabela, although it has already sent enough relief supplies to Catanduanos, and 50 sacks of rice to La Union.

Acting Governor Leocadio Ignacio of Isabela informs the President that total damage to public works, crops, lands and buildings as of yesterday morning had reached P12 million.

The Governor requests the President to direct all government agencies to extend help and release public works funds for emergency repairs on roads and bridges in order not to hamper traffic.

President Macapagal motors to Cavite province where he conferred with provincial, municipal and barrio officials on problems of their respective localities.

Visited by the President are the towns of Rosario, Indang, Maragondon, Ternate, Naic, Tanza and General Trias, and the City of Trece Martires.

In his speeches, the President states that he is doing everything within his power to solve the country's problems.

He recalls how he had to call Congress to one special session after another because of its failure to act on vital measures. The President points to the failure to enact a public works bill for the last three years—the first time this has happened in our political history—as a specific example of how congressional obstructionism can cause so much damage throughout the country.

Before leaving Malacañang in the morning, the President administers the oath of office to Major General Rigoberto Atienza as chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Following the induction, the Chief Executive pins two additional stars on Atienza, making him a full general in compliance with the law requiring a four-star rank for an AFP chief of staff. Gen Atienza-succeeds Gen. Alfredo M. Santos who retired when he turned 60 on his birthday last Tuesday (July 13).

Arriving in Trece Martires at 11:30 a.m., the President inaugurates the 19-room Doña Escolastica Romero de Macapagal Memorial Pavillion, an annex of the Andres Bonifacio Memorial Hospital there.

In the afternoon, the President addresses a public rally in Naic.

From Naic, the President motors to Tanza and then to General Trias.

After the rally, the President leaves General Trias past midnight for the return trip for Manila.

**July 15.**—AS the court of First Instance fixed the other day the price of the Rice and Corn Administration's imported rice at P2.14 a ganta, President Macapagal directs Solicitor General Arturo A. Alafritz to "exhaust all legal remedies to reverse the P2.14 a ganta rice ruling which would gravely prejudice the welfare of our people."

In a 12-page order CFI Judge Jesus P. Morfe stops the R.C.A, from selling its 595,000-ton importation to the masses at a low price. He explains that the agency would sustain a loss. He adds that the RCA is not authorized to sell the rice at a loss, because Congress had not appropriated any funds to cover the losses.

The President, in his directive, points out that the ruling, if it becomes final, would constitute a setback to his fight to provide low-cost rice to the people, especially the poor.

The Chief Executive also approves a proposal for the Philippines to host the Third Far East Symposium on Nutrition in Manila. The symposium is scheduled for either late 1966 or early in 1967.

"Considering the importance of nutrition in safeguarding the health of not only of our people but also that of others in this part of the world, I am pleased to offer the facilities of our country and contribute to the success of the seminar," he stresses.

The proposal is forwarded to the President by the U.S. Embassy on behalf of the Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition for National Defense (ICNND), a U.S. Government agency.

The symposium is the third of a series, Viet Nam and Nationalist China having hosted and co-sponsored previous meetings in 1962 and 1964. As in the past meetings, the ICNND is assuming major financial responsibility for the support of the Third Symposium, including travel and per diems of participants agreed on between Philippine and American Officers designated to organize the symposium.

Then the President swears in Undersecretary for Munitions Emerito de Jesus as acting Undersecretary of National Defense. De Jesus takes the place of Antonio de Joya who had been appointed customs commissioner.

In another ceremony, the President inducts Jovencio Mayor as acting undersecretary for munitions. Until his appointment to the defense post, Mayor is technical assistant in the office of Defense Secretary Macario Peralta Jr, Mayor was former governor of Romblon and director of the Bureau el Lands.

Mr Macapagal also inducts Marcelo Buncio and Constante L. de Peralta as director of the Parks and Wildlife Commission and District Judge of Zamboanga del Norte, respectively. Buncio succeeds Director Vicente dela Cruz who retired last March. He was landscape superintendent of the Bureau of Public Highways for 14 years.

Until his promotion as district judge, De Peralta 'is municipal judge of Molave, Zamboanga del Sur.

This morning, the President motors to the Manila International Airport to see off the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal; and their daughter Gloria, who left for Taipei as guests of the Philippine Air Lines on its inaugural flight to Taiwan's capital.

Meantime, President Macapagal extends his personal condolence to President Lyndon B. Johnson over the passing of Ambassador Adlai Stevenson whom he said fought for "the Tightness of rule of reason in man's quest for a desirable peace."

The President's cablegram to President Johnson reads:

"May I convey to you and the American people, my country's as well as my personal condolence over the passing of Ambassador Adlai Stevenson. Not American alone but all mankind suffers from his loss for in a world beset by conflicts and buffered by dissensions, Mister Stevenson has come to symbolize the rightness of the rule of reason in man's quest for a desirable peace. Behind him, he has left enduring guide-posts for those who will strive to carry on his passionate quest for world peace."

At the same time, the President issues the following statement on Stevenson's death:

"Not American alone but the whole world mourns the passing of Ambassador Adlai Stevenson who will forever be remembered as one of the world's great statesmen.

"Few can equal Mr. Stevenson's faith in the ultimate triumph of peace in a universal society. His voice, now stilled in death, was an eloquent plea for man's freedom, for understanding and tolerance.

"True to his deeply-rooted ideals of service not only to his country but to the cause of universal peace, Mr. Stevenson died in a foreign land—on one of his innumerable missions for peace as United States Ambassador to the United Nations.

"He was truly one of the world's most lucid spokesmen for man's hopes. His speeches sparkled with clarity and humor. The qualities of his mind endeared him to his fellowmen everywhere he went.

"Behind him he has left enduring guideposts for those who will strive to carry on his passionate quest for world peace.

"Mr. Stevenson was a great man, a universal man, whose boundless faith in man's capacity to endure and prevail made him respected and loved the world over. He was the brightest symbol of man's faith and hope for peace.

"Not every man's death diminishes the world but Mr. Stevenson has left the world much poorer with his death."

The Chief Executive also commends a janitor at the Manila International Airport for returning two checks worth P3.679 which he found in a wallet on the second floor of the building and two Cotabato City Jaycees for their participation in community development.

**July 16.**—AS the nation's school children prepared for the opening of classes on Monday (July 19), President Macapagal appeals to textbook and school supplies dealers not to increase exorbitantly their prices.

In making his appeal, the President reasons out that he did not want additional burdens imposed on parents of schoolchildren.

Providing education for their children is one of the primary responsibilities of parents and this shouldn't be made more difficult by unduly increasing their financial burdens through higher prices," the President explains.

“With the cooperation of textbook and school supplies dealers,” he points out, “we can provide our youth the means by which they can attain education.

“I am quite sure that the parents of schoolchildren will greatly appreciate the dealers’ cooperation. After all, the less impediments there are to a good education, the more enlightened citizens we shall have and all this will be for the ultimate good of our country,” the President notes.

At the same time, the President widens the scope of the all-out effort which he launched earlier this week to solve major problems through administrative measures by including all forms of smuggling.

The Chief Executive originally singles out the smuggling of blue-seal cigarettes as the problem to tackle administratively in wake of Congress’ obvious refusal to enact the necessary legislation.

The President orders a study also of the following for administrative solutions not only to cigarette smuggling but also against all forms of smuggling:

1. Increasing the fixed floor price for the sale of forfeited smuggled goods;
2. Strict supervision over the payment of reward money to informers;
3. Purchase of information on smuggling activities from informers;
4. Speedy disposition of forfeited property; and
5. Re-exportation of smuggled goods.

In the morning, the President confers with Speaker Cornelio Villareal on state matters, including the budget.

In the afternoon, the President motors to Olongapo, Zambales and address a public rally.

After the rally the President motors back to Manila.

**July 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring Wednesday (July 21), this year, as a special public holiday in San Fabian, Pangasinan.

July 21 marks the 101st birth anniversary of the late Juan Alvear, statesman, educator, member of the First Philippine Assembly and former governor of Pangasinan.

The President issues the proclamation upon a petition of the municipal council in order to afford the native town of Alvear “an opportunity to celebrate the day with fitting ceremonies.

In the afternoon, the President motors to Quezon Province.

The President visits and addresses rallies in the provinces of Atimonan, Siain, Gumaca Plaridel and Calauag.

In his speeches, the President appeals to the people of Quezon province to help the Liberal party on the task of translating Manuel L. Quezon’s social justice ideas into “an everyday reality.”

He points out that Quezon’s entire effort was dedicated to the liberation of the masses from bondage to poverty in general and to the tenancy system in particular.

The President concludes that in pursuing the late President's social justice ideal, the present administration had taken "the massive and monumental step of enacting a land reform law."

*Source:* **National Library**

**President's Week in Review: July 18-31, 1965**



## **President's Week in Review: August 1-7, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**August 1.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal grants executive clemency to 33 prisoners upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

Of those extended clemency, seven were conditional pardons; ten absolute pardons and 16 commutations of sentences.

In the afternoon, the President leaves Malacañang for Pasig, Rizal where he proclaims former Rep. Francisco Sumulong as LP official candidate in the second congressional district of the province.

Speaking before the delegates at the Pasig LP Chapter convention, the President points out that the administration is fast gaining more adherents among talented sons of illustrious fathers in its determination to push through its program to fight poverty.

He explains that recently he proclaimed Ramon Magsaysay, Jr. as LP congressional candidate in Zambales. He also points out that Senator Gerardo M. Roxas and Cebu City Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr. who are now with the administration, are sons of founders of the two main parties in the Philippines.

In proclaiming Sumulong the President recalls that the late Senator Juan Sumulong, the candidate's father, was among the pioneers of Philippine politics.

"The President observes that these prominent sons of eminent fathers must believe in the Administration's program to help the poor because they had chosen to take common cause with him and the Liberal Party.

Returning to Malacañang about 7 p.m., the President proceeds direct to the Palace chapel and hears Mass with immediate members of his family.

**August 2.**—AS deplorable conditions in the national penitentiary was underscored by a Supreme Court decision recently commuting the death sentence imposed on 14 convicts who figured in a prison riot seven years ago, President Macapagal orders Prisons Director Dominador Danan to submit immediately a report on conditions obtaining in the national penitentiary at Muntinlupa, Rizal.

The Supreme Court, in a decision penned by Justice J.B.L. Reyes, stated in commuting the sentences that the convicts were not entirely to blame in view of the poor conditions at the new Bilibid Prisons. Reyes points to the congestion and subhuman conditions at the penitentiary as having been "contributory" to the jail riots and crimes.

The President, in what may be the first definite step toward an improved setup at the Philippine National Railways, orders the abolition of political patronage in the employment of personnel as he approved and urged strict implementation of a set of PNR employment rules.

The salient provisions of the new PNR employment rules are:

1. New appointments must conform with Civil Service Regulations or with prevailing collective bargaining agreements;
2. Vacant positions shall not be filled unless fully justified and only according to such considerations as the table of organization and PNR finances may call for or allow; and

3. Priorities in the filing of vacant positions shall be given to personnel selected from the ranks, qualified children of PNR retirees, and qualified laid-off casual or temporary employees with appropriate efficiency record and length of service.

The new rules also provided that no casual or temporary employee shall be allowed to work, nor his employment extended, without prior approval of the board, except only in cases of operational emergencies such as derailments and washouts.

The Chief Executive receives a report that the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation (PHHC) has secured approval of release by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) of P8.5 million worth of mortgaged real estate properties in a determined move to push through the President's policy of giving homes to the homeless.

The GSIS approval of the release is geared to benefit over 1,300 families, as the release of the properties from mortgage would enable the PHHC to issue the titles covering the lots and houses of these families upon final payment.

The negotiations for the release made by Presidential Assistant Pete S. de Jesus, PHHC chairman, and Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio, GSIS general manager, were undertaken upon instructions of the President who expressed deep concern over the implementation of his housing program.

"Consistent with policy enunciated by the President, our offices will take all steps necessary to make the housing program successful," the chair men of the two agencies assured the Chief Executive.

The negotiations were undertaken under the provisions of R.A. 4066 which increased the loan value of mortgaged properties with GSIS from 60 per cent to 80 per cent of the appraised value of the collateral.

In approving the release, the GSIS took cognizance of the fact that the balance of the PHHC loan with the GSIS is now over-secured based on current valuation, considering the soaring prices of real estate properties. PHHC properties held by the GSIS as security are still pegged at the same valuation made ten years ago.

In the afternoon, the President receives the newly-elected officers of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines who paid him a courtesy call. The CCP officers invited the President and the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, to their induction rite on August 27.

In the evening, the Chief Executive meets with Judge Artemio Macalino and commissioners of the Court of Agrarian Relations. He also receives former Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon.

**August 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal directs different government lending agencies to implement immediately a plan to establish a common fund with an initial outlay of P25 million to help finance the Administration's massive housing program.

The Chief Executive issues the directive after receiving a report from Presidential Assistant on Housing Pedro S. de Jesus, concurrently board chairman of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, and PHHC Acting General Manager Jose T. Villanea, that the plan was agreed upon at a conference held with top representatives of different lending agencies.

The President's directive is in line with his policy of solving national problems thru administrative measures in view of non-cooperation from the NP-controlled Senate.

Under the plan, the Social Security System, the Philippine National Bank, the Development Bank of the Philippines, the Government Service Insurance System and the NACIDA Bank will allocate a certain percentage of their investible funds to form a common fund from which will be drawn funds for the President's housing program.

As agreed upon in principle, the different lending agencies, is allocating a minimum of P5 million each annually to the common fund. This allocation would be increased as the needs arise. The program envisions the establishment of housing projects and multi-storey tenement houses in various parts of the country.

With the situation in Olongapo, Zambales having returned to normal and the town police force fully capable of maintaining peace and order in the area, the President—upon the recommendation of Ramon Magsaysay Jr.—orders Brig. Gen. Flaviano Olivares, PC chief, to lift PC control in that town.

The town was placed under PC control recently following the outbreak of lawlessness in the area, with the attempted assassination of Mayor James Gordon.

The Chief Executive also directs the immediate release of P20, 000 for use in eradicating rats which have been infesting Bulacan ricefields.

The President makes the funds available following representations by Governor Jose M. Villarama. The provincial governor had earlier requested the President to release funds because of mounting destruction of rice crops in the towns of Pulilan, Baliwag, San Ildefonso and San Miguel.

The President, in releasing the P20, 000 states:

“I realize the urgency of the situation and the need for prompt remedial action, which is why I have ordered the outright release of the needed amount.”

Meanwhile, Malacañang receives the enrolled copies of the General Appropriations Act for the current fiscal year passed by Congress in a special session for the President’s consideration.

In the evening, the President receives Major General James E. Wilson, new commanding general of the U.S. 13th Air Force at Clark Air Base who paid him a courtesy call. Wilson who succeeds Lieutenant General’ Sam Maddox, was accompanied to Malacañang by Ambassador William McCormick Blair, Jr.

**August 4.**—TAKING cognizance of the necessity of encouraging government employees to achieve greater efficiency in the public service and of focusing public attention on the invaluable services rendered by government employees, the President signs a proclamation declaring the period from December 5 to 11, this year as Government Employees’ Week.

“I hereby call upon all citizens and residents of the Philippines, as well as schools and civic organizations to turn their thoughts to the honest, loyal and devoted government employees in grateful appreciation of the services rendered by them, “the President says in his proclamation.

He adds that the Week should also be devoted to the attainment of maximum service efficiency and the highest degree of harmony and cooperation between the public and the employees.

The Chief Executive issues another proclamation declaring Thursday (August 19), as a special public holiday throughout the country in commemoration of the 87th birth anniversary of the late President Manuel L. Quezon.

In issuing the proclamation, the President notes that the Filipino people should be given full opportunity to render homage to the memory of an illustrious leader.

He adds that since August 19th is also Citizenship Day, by virtue of Proclamation No. 331 dated August 4, 1962, he is enjoining the observance of the day with appropriate ceremonies designed to inculcate upon the people, especially the youth, the rights and duties of good citizenship.

At the same time, the President signs a separate proclamation authorizing the Quezon Memorial Circle Development and Beautification Committee to conduct a national educational and fund campaign from August 1 to Sept. 30, 1965.

“The Quezon Memorial aims to perpetuate the memory of a great leader who devoted his lifetime to the attainment of Philippine Independence and to the welfare of his people. That is why I am calling upon all citizens and residents of the Philippines to assist in this drive by giving generously of their means so that this laudable civic project may be completed.” the President states.

The President administers the oath of office to Ruben de Roma as judge of the Court of Agrarian Relations.

Until his appointment as CAR judge, De Roma is vice-governor of Laguna province.

President Macapagal likewise orders the government’s intelligence agencies to verify a news report that some 500 Chinese had been smuggled into the country with the help of certain government officials.

In his directives to the National Bureau of Investigation and the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, the President points out that if the report was true, he wanted to have the “facts and figures of the case or cases so that I can take the necessary action.”

“Needless to say,” the President adds, “if your agency confirms this report, I will not hesitate to throw the full force of the law at those government officials for this most reprehensible act.”

The Chief Executive issues the directive upon reading a news report that some 500 Chinese had been smuggled into the Philippines in consideration of P15 million paid to certain government officials.

In the evening, the President receives the credentials of Mohammed Masood, Pakistan’s new ambassador to the Philippines. Ambassador Masood succeeds Ambassador A. M. Malik who is now in Canberra, Australia.

In remarks at the presentation ceremonies, the President and the Ambassador express mutual desire of further strengthening the ties of friendship between the Philippines and Pakistan.

“The close bond of understanding between our two countries, which has been enhanced by the common determination that we share towards the preservation of free democratic ideals, particularly in our part of the world, through our membership in the South East Asia Treaty Organization, augurs well for our future,” the President says.

He adds that with the existing cultural and trade agreements, the two countries can achieve closer and more fruitful cooperation in all fields.

Ambassador Masood, on the other hand, cites the many things that his country and the Philippines have in common, particularly the desire to see the end of colonialism of every form everywhere in the world.

He also points out the efforts of both countries to establish free democratic societies “where individual citizens are equal in the eyes of the law and should have equal opportunities for the betterment of their future.”

Following the ceremonies, the President receives a group of Nationalist China officials and newsmen who made a courtesy call at Malacañang in return for the visit made to Taipei recently by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, as guest of the Philippine Air Lines at the inaugural flight of its resumed service to Taiwan’s capital.

The President also receives Dr. John Esterline, chief of the United States Information Service here, and Mrs. Esterline who paid him a farewell call preparatory to going back to Washington for a new assignment.

Later, the President administers the oath of office to Rene Farrales as chairman and general manager of the Mindanao Development Authority, vice Brigido Valencia who was appointed board chairman of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority. Until his appointment, Farrales was a ranking executive in the MDA.

President Macapagal receives a letter of thanks from Charles S. Rhyne, chairman of the Washington World Conference on World Peace Through Law, for his "outstanding and meaningful message" to the organization.

The organization includes such distinguished personalities as ex-Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower and Harry S. Truman, honorary co-chairmen of the Sponsors Committee; and Chief Justice Earl Warren, honorary chairman.

Rhyne's letter to the President follows:

"I wish to express my deep appreciation for your outstanding and meaningful message to the Washington World Conference on World Peace Through Law. I sincerely believe that all men of goodwill must applaud the World Rule of Law as mankind's greatest hope, and I am certain that the international legal profession joins with me in thanking you for your efforts of cooperation with us as we strive toward our common goal.

"I trust that we shall have a distinguished delegation to represent the legal profession of the Philippines at the Conference for we are most anxious to avail ourselves of the valuable contribution that would be made by the presence of such an able group.

"Thanking you for your continuing interest and encouragement."

**August 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal congratulates Filipino World Junior Lightweight Champion Gabriel "Flash" Elorde on his victory over Puerto Rican lightweight contender Frankie Narvaez at a non-title 10-round bout at the Madison Square Garden in New York City. In a cablegram to Elorde, the President says:

"I join the nation in congratulating you on your latest triumph and thanking you for keeping faith with our trust in your skill and powers. We all wish you success in your future ventures."

Elorde donated part of his purse to the Bataan-Corregidor Memorial fund.

The Chief Executive approves the award of the Philippine Legion of Honor, degree of commander, to Brig. Gen. Le Van Tat, chief of Tay Ninh Province, Republic of Viet-Nam. The award will be conferred on Le Van Tat upon recommendation of the Secretary of National Defense, "for outstanding service to the cause of goodwill and fraternity between the peoples of Viet-Nam and the Philippines."

The President also appoints Joaquin Cheung, Jr. as deputy administrator of the National Civil Defense Administration. During his oath-taking, Cheung was likewise designated. Acting NCDA Administrator in the absence of Administrator Alfredo A. Eugenio who is abroad. The new appointee had been supervising labor administrator in the Department of Labor and Chief Investigator in the Bureau of Customs.

In the afternoon, the President motors to Tayug, Pangasinan where he formally proclaims the municipality as a land reform area.

In a speech delivered in Ilocano, the President warns the local farmers against "latter-day exploiters of the poor and grabbers of land who seek to subvert the freedom you have just won."

"Even as this proclamation (of Tayug as a land reform area) makes it possible for you to rid yourselves of the serfdom which has been your lot for centuries," the President tells a crowd of some 10,000 who witnessed the inauguration, "I must warn you that there still walk in your midst money-mad and power-hungry men who seek to negate and set back the progress you have made."

The President stresses that the proclamation of Tayug, locale of many a bloody peasant uprising, as a land reform area was “incontrovertible proof that the land reform movement has taken root and gained momentum.”

“We are determined to see, to it that every Filipino farmer who so desires shall own the land on which he has shed his blood, his sweat and his tears,” he states.

The inauguration of the Tayug land reform project is one of several events planned for the celebration of Land Reform Week which started August 2nd. The Week intends to commemorate the 2nd anniversary of the signing of the Agricultural Land Reform Code. The Tayug land reform project cover 2,463.60 hectares of farmlands. It has 1,801 farmers, 865 of whom are share-tenants cultivating an average of 1.29 hectares each.

After the ceremony, the President boards the presidential car for a return trip to Manila.

Meantime President Macapagal receives a letter of gratitude from residents of Pansol, Balara, Quezon City, for signing into law H. No. 17846, authorizing the sale of lots in the barrio to *bona fide* residents.

In his letter to the Chief Executive, Barrio Captain Benjamin C. Antonio also seeks presidential approval of their plan to hold either a gratitude parade from Pansol to Malacañang, or a Gratitude-to-President Macapagal Day in Pansol.

“We want to offer ourselves as living proofs of your goodness and benevolence thru the gratitude parade or the gratitude day, so we earnestly request Your Excellency to share with us a portion of your time,” Antonio writes the President.

**August 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal cancels all appointments and engagements in order to devote this time to important pending papers, including the General Appropriations Act for the current fiscal year, the enrolled copy of which was recently received in Malacañang.

**August 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues an executive order opening the port of Dadiangas in General Santos, Cotabato as a subport of entry within the collection district of the port of Davao.

The President issues the directive upon the recommendation of Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova.

The President enunciates a 12-point creed of public service.

The Chief Executive makes public his creed as he proclaims at the Sta. Ana recreational center the Liberal party’s official congressional candidate for the city’s Fourth District.

The 12-point creed of public service as enunciated by the President are:

1. “Integrity and capacity for self-denial as indispensable qualities that should be possessed by the Nation’s highest leaders;
2. “Relentless moral regeneration in all levels of government;
3. “The common man as the backbone of the Nation and the prime mover and beneficiary of its progress;
4. “Free enterprise as the key to increased production in agricultural, industrial and social progress;
5. “The inviolability of the rule of law;

6. "Untrammelled freedom of speech, press and peaceful assembly restrained only by a due regard for the rights of others;
7. "Single party responsibility in the Executive and in both legislative chambers;
8. "The right of the humblest citizen to have adequate food, clothing and shelter;
9. "Bringing the food of the people at prices within their reach;
10. "Land reform and massive land distribution to the masses;
11. "The right of every citizen to obtain employment at a living wage; and
12. "Assisting other peoples to keep their freedom in order to preserve our own."

The President likewise accepts the resignations of Education Secretary Alejandro R. Roces, Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz and PAGCOM Chairman Cesar Climaco, who are all running for senator under the Liberal Party banner in the coming elections.

At the same time, President Macapagal makes the following appointments:

1. Pedro M. Pascasio, division superintendent of schools, as Undersecretary of Education who will be acting secretary pending the appointment of a new Secretary;
2. Juan S. Cancio, acting Assistant Executive Secretary and concurrently GSIS general manager, as acting Executive Secretary in place of Ramon Diaz;
3. Alberto de Joya, customs commissioner, as PAGCOM chairman, vice Climaco;
4. Pablo Mariano, deputy customs commissioner as acting Commissioner of Customs, vice de Joya;
5. Pedro G. de Peralta, member of the GSIS board of trustees, as Undersecretary for Industry; he will be acting Secretary in the absence of Secretary of Commerce and Industry Cornelio Balmaceda who is abroad;
6. Eugenio Eusebio, member of the DBP board of governors, as GSIS general manager, vice Cancio; and
7. Placido L. Mapa, Jr. deputy director of Finance, a new position provided for in the new budget.

*Source:* **National Library**

## Official Week in Review: August 8 – August 14, 1965

**August 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal receives a report from Public Works Secretary Jorge Abad that before the year is over, the long-dreamed-of Pan-Philippine Highways will be on the way to reality.

As projected, the Highway stretches 2,079 kilometers from Aparri in Cagayan to Davao City in Mindanao. It will tunnel across mountains, skirt crowded cities through complex interchanges and hop across channels via bridges and ferries. Only 36 kilometers of new roads will be built in addition to four major strait crossings. Already operational are 2,043 kilometers of existing roads which will form part of the Pan-Philippine Highway.

The classification of these roads by surface-type is as follows:

|    |                                 |                |
|----|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. | Paved with asphalt and concrete | 842 kms.       |
| 2. | Macadam                         | 1,185 kms      |
| 3. | Earth roads                     | <u>16 kms.</u> |
|    | Total                           | 2,043 kms.     |

Public Works Secretary Abad reported these existing roads are now being improved.

This improvement program calls for concreting and widening of the main national roads, cutting of diversion routes on circuituous portions and replacement of temporary bridges with permanent ones all the way.

In the interim, 24 vital portions which will eventually connect the Highway through Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, will be built by private contractors as provided for by Republic Act 3741, otherwise known as the Private Financing Law.

These portions represent bridges, exchanges, ferry services and stretches of roads. Bids for their construction will be advertised starting October and the latest deadline will be on March 4, 1966.

Under the law, private contractors will get back their investments plus interest through a system of tolls sanctioned by the government. The law also provides that maintenance and repair of these projects will be undertaken by the private contractors and that these expenses will be deducted from the income of the project.

It is further provided by law that the net will first be applied to the interest of 12 per cent per annum and then to the capital until the project is fully paid for.

Secretary Abad's optimism over the early completion of the highway is based on the fact that numerous contractors and financing groups—Filipinos and foreigners—have sent in written inquiries.

The President, together with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, motors to Camp Crame, Quezon City to attend the celebration of the 64th anniversary of the Philippine Constabulary.

He delivers the main address at the end of the morning celebration, while Mrs. Macapagal officiates at the cornerstone laying for a proposed PC station Hospital and at the unveiling of the monument of Brig. Gen. Rafael Crame, first Filipino chief of constabulary.

Leaving the Palace at 9 a.m., the President is greeted with a 21-gun salute on entering the PC headquarters compound. A company of the PC and contingents of ROTC cadets render military honors to the Commander-in-Chief in front of the imposing PC headquarters building.



Following the military honors, the President and the First Lady proceed to the site of the proposed P150,000 PC station hospital where, after the invocation and blessing by Lt. Col. Dominador de Vera, chief of the PC chaplains; Mrs. Macapagal places a canister of documents into the cornerstone and then covers it, with the President assisting.

From the unveiling ceremony, the First Couple proceeds to the grandstand where an epic presentation of the PC's development was staged, and where the President delivers an extemporaneous speech.

Mainly a kaleidoscope of PC activities, particularly in the anti-smuggling campaign, the show also candidly portrayed the PC's failings which had been caused most often by irresistible material temptations and by the organization's lack of logistics.

In his speech, the President urges the Philippine Constabulary "to give everything of your efforts and endeavors for the faithful execution of your duty to enforce the majesty of the law."

He says that the PC soldier should be firm and, referring to the "glorious armor and shield of the PC," he enjoins every soldier never to taint it.

The Chief Executive singles out smuggling as the "newest enemy of law and order, which has brought so much dishonor to the Filipino people."

The President states that he was reminded of the campaign against bootlegged liquor in the State of Illinois during the time of notorious Al Capone when state authorities had to relent in the liquor ban.

To effectively counteract smuggling here, the President stresses, he had recommended to Congress the lessening of specific taxes on tobacco products, but the lawmakers had not acted on the measures.

The President points out that he realized his Administration, and the PC too for that matter, must labor under too many handicaps occasioned by the inescapable situation in a democracy whereby different political parties control the executive and the legislative branches of the government.

Realizing such handicaps, the President concludes that he still looked forward, with the devotion to duty of the Constabulary, to carry on the fight against all enemies of social and economic order in the country.

During the program, the President presents medals and citations to 21 awardees.

The First Couple returns to Malacañang from Camp Crame shortly before noon.

In the evening, the President hears Sunday Mass at the Palace Chapel.

**August 9.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal approves a special Cabinet committee recommendation to lower NAMARCO prices on prime commodities by 30 per cent and orders its immediate implementation.

The President's move to lower prices of prime commodities, specifically of canned milk, canned meat and canned fish, dovetails with his efforts to import rice and sell the grain at P1.

At the same time, Namarco General Manager Jose Calderon bares that orders received by his agency starting today will be 30 per cent down in prices.

Calderon states that the recommendation of the special Cabinet committee on prices headed by Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova, would in effect resume the Namarco consumers subsidy program which was first authorized in 1962 by a bipartisan technical committee on prices.

In approving the Cabinet committee recommendation, the President points out “it has been the continuing effort of the Administration to stabilize prices even in the face of difficult conditions, some created intentionally by the opposition forces and others by circumstances beyond human control.

The Chief Executive likewise administers the oath of office to six ranking officials of the government.

Inducted are:

1. Pedro M. Pascasio, division superintendent of schools, as Undersecretary of Education who will be acting secretary pending the appointment of a new secretary;
2. Alberto de Joya, customs commissioner, as PAGCOM chairman;
3. Wilfredo Ponce de Leon as acting president of the Palawan Agricultural College;
4. Dominador de Asis, general manager of the Philippine National Railways, as Reparations Commissioner;
5. General Alfredo M. Santos, retired AFP chief of staff, as PNR general manager, vice De Asis; and
6. Chairman Teodoro C. de Vera of the Abaca Development Board, as Assistant Executive Secretary.

In the evening, the President receives U.S. Ambassador and Mrs. William McCormick Blair, Jr. who call to say goodbye prior to their departure for a vacation in Europe and the United States. The Blairs inform the President they would be away for six weeks.

Then the President holds a lengthy conference with Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco on the budget. The conference is slated to be resumed the following morning at Poro Point, San Fernando, La Union.

This morning, the President do not receive any callers instead he spends his time in his study clearing his desk of pending papers preparatory to his departure for the North to distribute lands and land titles in connection with the “Land for the Masses” program recently launched by his administration.

Earmarked for distribution are 60,030 hectares in Ilocos Sur, 78,896 hectares in La Union and 56,405 hectares in Cagayan. At three hectares per occupant, some 65,751 landless families stand to benefit from the distribution.

Titles will also be distributed to 225 vendees of the Filicidad Intal Estate in Baggao and 65 vendees of the Roma Estate in Enrile, both in Cagayan province.

The release and distribution of lands forms the second and third phases in the implementation of the Administration’s land reform program through:

1. Awarding of lands to tenants under the Land Reform Code;
2. Awarding of public, forest and hitherto alien lands to settlers; and
3. Speedy subdivision of lands and issuance of titles to these lands under the Land Authority and the defunct Land Tenure Administration.

The “Land for the Masses” program covers some 4,516,000 hectares of forest, public and hitherto alien lands, the release and distribution of which has been authorized by the President to 1,288,000 heads of families all over the country.

**August 10.**—ARRIVING in San Gabriel, La Union, President Macapagal assures tobacco farmers of the North that he will always have the interest of the tobacco industry at heart.

Leaving Malacañang at 6:10 a.m., the President together with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, arrives San Gabriel at 10 a.m.

Speaking in fluent Ilocano before a huge crowd there which turns out to give him and the First Lady a rousing welcome, the President bares that he has directed the Central Bank to release payments for the 1963 tobacco crop.

The President stresses that the government will spare no effort to help out tobacco farmers because “they are part of the overall strategy in the all-out war against poverty

Following his speech, the President inducts Pedro G. de Peralta as acting Undersecretary of Commerce and Industry.

After lunch, the President proceeds to Barrio Corrooy in Santol, La Union for another rally.

At the same time, the President sends congratulatory messages to the officers and men of the Philippine Navy who apprehended 10 vessels in southern waters and confiscated an estimated P2.1 million worth of blue seal cigarettes on August 6.

This is the biggest single haul thus far in the government’s continuing drive against smuggling.

Cmdr. Gil Fernandez, commander of Task Force 31 in Sulu, and Lt. Cmdr. Augusto Borja of Task Force 41 in the Visayas are commended for their “able personal direction” which netted approximately 3,740 cases of blue seal cigarettes.

The President urges them to “continue the relentless drive to maintain pressure against economic saboteurs.”

In another message, the President cites Cmdr. Rolando Kagaoan and the officers and men of the RPS “Leyte” for apprehending four vessels west of Balabac, Palawan, with a total load of 1,590 cases of blue seals.

The Chief Executive also signs Bureau of Lands Special Patent No. 532 setting aside 3,356 hectares of land spread out in Paete, Longos, and Pakil in Laguna for the proposed Dairy Research and Training Institute of the U.P. College of Agriculture.

“Considering the importance of developing our own dairy industry, I am fully optimistic that with the setting up of this Institute, we shall be able to make considerable headway in our efforts to achieve national self-sufficiency in milk and milk products,” the President states.

Republic Act No. 3990, enacted June 18, 1964, authorizes the U.P. to establish a central experiment station in connection with its research and extension functions.

The proposed Dairy Research and Training Institute will be used for research and production studies.

**August 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, vetoes a total of P22.4 million which is considered to be sources of the so-called “excessive” congressional allowances in the 1965–1966 national budget.

The budget appropriations totaling P1.7 billion for this new fiscal year is approved by the President in Poro Point, San Fernando, La Union. Items which the President slashes includes P18.4 million from the House and P2.6 million from the Senate.

These slashes in the budget represents the controversial allowances for senators and congressmen which had been the object of public criticism.

The reduction in the senate budget includes P30,000 for the Senate electoral tribunal. While the other reduction of P1.5 million includes P800,000 for the Commission on Appointments and the remainder for the Joint Legislative-Executive Tax Commission.

The total vetoed amount of P22,420,180 is more than the amount the Philippine Constitution Association and Sen. Gaudencio Antonino, who led the fight against the lawmakers' allowances, had sought to be slashed in their petition to the President.

The Philconsa had earlier urged the President to veto only P17.5 million, of which P15 million is intended for the House.

Sen. Antonino, who had filibustered against the budgetary measure on the Senate floor, had asked the President to veto P7,838,800–P15,560,000 from the House outlay and P2,278,800 from the Senate budget.

In his message to Congress explaining his veto of congressional items, the President points out that he wanted to economize.

“This was especially so because of the continuing deficiency in the general fund due to the failure of the Nacionalista-controlled Senate to enact revenue measures,” the President explains.

The P22.4-million veto is the biggest reduction the President ever made throughout his administration.

Last year, the Chief Executive slashed the House outlay by P11 million. In 1963, he reduced the congressional budget by P2.5 million.

Later in the day, the President addresses rallies in Baguio, Naguilian and Sudipen, all in La Union.

The Chief Executive winds up his La Union tour with visits to the towns of Santo Tomas and Agoo in the afternoon, topped off by a dinner at the residence of Rep. Cases in the evening.

Meantime, President Macapagal calls on the members of the Philippine FOA Fellows Association to make public service more responsive to the needs of the community and the nation.

The Association is made up of technical experts who have trained abroad under the NEC–AID technical assistance program.

In a speech read for him by NEC Chairman Hilarion C. Henares at the opening of the association's three-day-convention at the Manila Hotel, the President stresses that public service must include three ingredients—labor, assistance and kindness.

“All three,” he emphasizes, “must be directed, unstintingly and unreservedly to the people.”

At the same time, the President assails those who regard government service as a way to make a living and nothing more.

“These people consider themselves, not as servants of the public, but as masters of the people,” he states.

He also appeals to the members of the Association to lend their leadership, superior knowledge and truer perspective towards the improvement of public service.

“And while you are doing all these things, while you are demonstrating the true meaning of public service, remember that it is the people whom you are pledged to serve, it is their interests you must protect and look after,” the President said.

**August 12.**—STILL in Poro Point, La Union, President Macapagal directs the Philippine Constabulary to take immediate action on a report that pirates had sacked a whole settlement in Palawan, bringing with them two young girls and about P50,000 worth of loot.

The President acts on the strength of an information transmitted to him by Ramon V. Mitra, confirming a report received by PC headquarters on the raid which took place last August 9 in a southernmost sitio of Palawan.

Mitra wired the President asking for early action in tracking down the pirates who, according to PC reports, have been identified.

The settlement raided was sitio Lambogan on Monkey Island, 40 miles southeast of Balabac proper. The raid started at 5 a.m. and ended at 7:30 a.m.

The President accepts philosophically a Supreme Court verdict voiding the new voters’ list of the Commission on Elections.

“In our democracy, the Supreme Court has the last say in all legal issues,” the President states.

The President leaves the Guest House in Poro Point at 9:30 a.m. for Banayoyo, Ilocos Sur.

From there he transfers to a jeep for the trip to Lidlidda where he addressed a rally. From Lidlidda, the President proceeds to Candon also in Ilocos Sur for another rally.

**August 13.**—TOPPING off his two-day visit of Ilocos Sur by distributing land titles to farmers in Suyo and in the town of Galimuyod, President Macapagal assures farmers of these mountain towns that he would continue his “Land for the Masses” program as part of the administration’s fight-poverty campaign.

The President’s award of 46 titles to agricultural lands to their occupants brings to 236 the total number of land titles distributed in this area over the past few months.

Continuous rains which have been falling all afternoon failed to dampen the warm welcome prepared by the townspeople for the President. Using every available means to shield themselves from the pouring rain, the people stood their ground and listened to the President speak on the progress of his program for the common man and the attempts of the Opposition to frustrate it.

People express amazement over the President’s mastery of the Ilocano dialect. The crowds interrupt his speeches with loud cheers of “Agbiag ni Apo Macapagal” (Long live Macapagal) and “Ilayon ni Apo Macapagal” (Let’s reelect Macapagal).

Recipients of titles are profuse in their thanks to the President. As they descend the stage, the recipients proudly wave their titles for all their friends and members of their families to see.

Meantime, the President is informed that messages of congratulations from provincial, city, municipal and barrio officials; heads of business, civic and religious organizations, and private individuals from all over the country, started pouring in Malacañang for his veto of the so-called “excessive” congressional allowances.

Some of the messages saw the Presidential veto as “another determined step towards the realization of the moral regeneration drive,” as a show of “patriotism of the highest order,” and as “hitting a new high in statesmanship and courage.”

Other messages regarded the decision to veto as one made in “a moment of greatness,” “ushering in a new era in Philippine politics and as an “unprecedented use of Presidential powers for the welfare of the entire country.”

A citygram from Manuel L. Quezon Jr., simply signed “Nonong” stated: “I join our people in congratulating you on your veto. May it foreshadow further great decisions. God bless you for it.”

In the evening, back at Poro Point, La Union, the President issues a statement upon learning of the death of former Premier Hayato Ikeda of Japan. The statement:

“Mrs. Macapagal and I join our countrymen in mourning the death of Premier Ikeda. He will be remembered here not only as the leader who put Japan back on its economic feet after the chaos of World War II but also as a man whose knowledge and sympathy for our problems merits the highest praise.”

**August 14.**—BACK at Malacañang, the President directs the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration to institute, starting Sept. 1, a system of direct payments to tobacco farmers for the 1965 purchases to enable them to receive the full value of their crops under the tobacco subsidy.

The President’s directive was pursuant to his basic policy “of ensuring that tobacco farmers get what they deserve without any of the benefits due them going to middlemen and other exploiters.”

The new payments method was recommended by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta Jr., acting PVTA chairman, who reported that the PVTA office in Quezon City had been receiving numerous complaints about farmers receiving only a fraction of the true value of their produce.

Sec. Peralta said that for years necessity had forced tobacco farmers to sell their purchase invoice vouchers to speculators and traders for as low as 50 per cent of their face value. The invoice voucher is the receipt issued by FACOMA to a farmer upon delivery of his stock of flue-cured tobacco.

Under the new payments plan, farmers will receive their payments directly, thus eliminating middlemen. Offices will be established in tobacco-producing regions to handle direct payments. The new manner of payment is a modification of the present method of issuing checks to authorized representatives of farmers, usually a FACOMA official, upon presentation of proper credentials.

With the new payments plan, the President expresses confidence the small tobacco growers will be freed from the clutches of loan sharks and middlemen who take advantage of the farmers’ need for ready money.

“A bright and prosperous future is in store for tobacco farmers and their families with the operation of this payment system,” the President says.

**Source: National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1965). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 61(35), cclxxix-cclxxxv.

## **President's Week in Review: August 15-21, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**August 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal orders the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration to start paying tobacco farmers upon delivery of their produce “without any delay whatsoever” to prevent their exploitation by middlemen.

The Chief Executive issues the directive when he dropped in at a meeting of the PVTA Board at its Quezon City offices.

The President instructs the board that starting September 1, he wants payments made to no other persons than actual tobacco farmers. “And I want these payments made upon delivery—not a week or month later,” he orders.

He observes that the delay in payments were forcing the farmers, against their own interests, to bargain with middlemen.

During the 45-minute visit to the PVTA, where the board is assembled, the President:

1. Directs the PVTA to use all available funds and receipts for direct payments to farmers starting September 1 so that henceforth payments for 1965 and future deliveries will be made up to date; and
2. Orders the PVTA board to submit to him for a definition of policy the matter of payments for 1963-1964 tobacco deliveries, which policy he is expected to announce on September 1 at the opening of three-day national convention in Manila of FACOMA representatives, redrying contractors, cigarette manufacturers and representatives of tobacco planters and producers.

During his meeting with the PVTA board, the President emphasizes the pressing need for paying directly to the farmers “so that they will get fully what is due them” and the need for paying the farmers on time.

He points out that fund receipts to which the PVTA is entitled under the tobacco subsidy law must be used to pay the farmers for tobacco deliveries made in current trading operations.

“The primordial thing to do is help the farmers, which was the intent of the law,” the President declares.

He cautions against the practice of allowing middlemen to come between the farmers and the FACOMAS before it becomes an institution in the local tobacco industry.

He also approves the promotions of three high-ranking officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Promoted are:

1. Brig. Gen. Ismael Lapuz, commanding general of the Philippine Army, to vice chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, with the rank of major general;
2. Col. Jose B. Ramos, vice-commander of the Philippine Air Force, to the rank of brigadier general; and
3. Col. Manuel Mandac, commanding officer of the Fourth Military Area, to the rank of brigadier general.

At the same time, the President receives a nine-point recommendation from former Secretary of Finance Aurelio Montinola for improving the service of the Philippine National Railways, which the President is giving his most careful study.

Montinola's recommendation follows:

1. *A clean-out of the PNR's past-due financial obligations.* This will have to be a refinancing operation.
2. *A thorough program to rehabilitate and revitalize the existing assets of the PNR in order to increase to optimum levels the utilization of PNR's existing capacity.* This revitalization process should be conceived of in two phases: (1) the disposition of all equipment and materials that are reasonably beyond repair and beyond the possibility of re-utilization, in order to realize at least their scrap value and to clear the shops of unnecessary obstructions, and (2) the rehabilitation of the non-operating rolling stocks and motive power through repairs and the immediate acquisition of spare parts; replacement of rails and accessories; and procurement of telecommunications and signalling equipment.
3. *A carefully implemented program of immediate expansion.* This entails immediate procurement of additional units of rolling stock and motive power as contained in the memorandum of Chairman Fernando E. V. Sison. Financial requirement for this program will amount to \$18 million and is covered under the emergency procurement program known as Indent Bid No. 17.

The undersigned understands that upon the completion of this expansion program, the PNR operations would have attained the 1957 level, the peak operational period in the history of PNR.

Currently, the company has already succeeded in negotiating for the fund requirements for the first half of the expansion program with the granting of the final award regarding Indent Bid No. 17 early this second semester. In fact, on the 13th of July, 1965, the signing of the contract between PNR and Macondray & Co. representing the Japanese suppliers, for the first part of Indent Bid No. 17, took place at the Office of the Economic Coordinator. The bid contract involved P38.7 million. Under the contract, PNR will acquire 160 flat cars, 18 ordinary coaches, 7 power cars and other railway equipment.

*The recommendations embodied in Nos. 2 and 3 above can be carried simply by the faithful implementation of the program covered by Indent Bid No. 17. It is strongly recommended that full support be given to the efforts of Chairman F. E. V. Sison and the PNR management in implementing this program.*

4. *All real estate properties not used or needed in the company's operations be sold at the most favorable price possible.* This will release about P20.6 million of funds (which at present are frozen in these non-operating properties) for more productive use by the PNR, particularly in its revitalization and expansion program.
5. *Every effort should be exerted to increase the PNR's revenues.* This entails, among others: (1) the drastic limitation of the use of free passes, (2) more intensive use of rolling stock for revenue-earning passenger and freight services, (3) an aggressive marketing program to "sell" the railroad's services to the public, but backed up—needless to say—by such improvements as would enable the PNR to provide the type of services it purports to give. Perhaps, at some future time, the tariff of the railroad should be reexamined in order to reflect the higher replacement costs of equipment.
6. *Rigorous measures should be undertaken to control costs.* This would include the lay-off of unnecessary casuals and other excess manpower, more efficient materials management, and a sustained program of preventive maintenance.
7. *An effective modern financial control system should be instituted and placed under a qualified comptroller.*
8. *A thorough reexamination of the PNR's auxiliary (non-railroad) services should be made, with a view to determining whether they can be made profitable, whether they are necessary for the railroad's over-all business, or whether they can be liquidated or transferred to private management.*



9. *The railroad must be operated strictly as business enterprise.* It must be managed according to the highest standards that would be observed as if the railroad were privately-managed and controlled. This, in the last analysis, is the factor that would spell the success or the failure of the Philippine National Railways.

Montinola made these recommendations in the course of his inquiry report, requested by the President, on the head-on collision of two PNR trains near Damortis, La Union, last June 16, in which 14 persons were killed and 32 others were injured.

His finding was that the collision was caused by one of the trains (No. 8) having been allowed to proceed to Damortis in violation of the basic “right of way” rule.

Montinola stated that primarily responsible for the collision was Donaldo Delfino, relief station agent at San Fabian, Pangasinan, who dispatched Train No. 8 from San Fabian to Damortis in violation of the PNR’s operating rules, “although the burden of guilt must rest on the shoulders” also of other PNR personnel on duty at the time for their indifference to PNR operating rules.

To avoid such accidents in the future, Montinola stated that there is need for re-orientation with the operating rules and, more important, inculcating an abiding respect for them.

He also stated that there should be an updating of the railway’s facilities.

The President leaves Malacañang at 8:30 a.m. for a two-day trip to Cagayan where he is slated to distribute land titles to some 18,000 landless families in that province and attend the proclamation of reelectionist Rep. Tito Dupaya.

On his way to Tuguegarao, Cagayan, the President makes a stopover at the residence of former Gov. Jose Espino.

Arriving Tuguegarao at 5 p.m., the President proceeds immediately to the towns church where a *TeDeum* was sung in his honor. From there he attends a public rally and then distributes title to landless families.

The President stays overnight at the residence of Governor Teresa J. Dupaya.

**August 16.**—RETURNING from the two-day trip, President Macapagal directs the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority (NAWASA) to accelerate its program of constructing additional safe water supply facilities and improving and expanding existing ones.

In his directive to the NAWASA, the President notes that the rate of population increase, estimated at about one million every year, makes it more important than ever that safe water supply facilities be improved and increased at local and national levels.

“I need not underscore the importance of adequate safe water supply to insure the general health and well-being of our people,” the President states.

He also stresses the increasing need for more water in ever-growing industrial areas in Greater Manila and other large cities.

The President is informed that the NAWASA is stepping up its program for the expansion of the Manila and Suburbs Waterworks System. The program of improvement is estimated to cost P188 million and consists of three phases. They are:

1. Water supply—Construction of a new tunnel and aqueducts to increase to 300 million gallons per day the delivery of raw water from Angat River through Novaliches Reservoir to Balara filters, estimated at P80 million.

2. Filtration and Pre-treatment Plants—Constructions of pre-treatment plants and additional filters at Balara to treat and purify the additional supply of 300-million gallons of raw water, estimated at P21-million.

3. Distribution System—Laying of large sized water mains, installation of nine booster stations and construction of eight big reservoirs to improve the distribution system all over Manila and suburbs, estimated to cost P85-million.

The purchase of equipment for the improvement of transportation, communications and metering facilities will cost P2-million. The dollar portion required for Manila's system is being financed from a 820.5-million loan from the World Bank, while the peso portion comes from the Bond Fund.

The President is also briefed that 18 existing waterworks system in the provinces are being improved and expanded to serve the growing population. Eleven of these are in Luzon, four in Visayas and three in Mindanao.

These 18 systems, which will supply the water needs of 446,000 more persons, are being improved at a cost of P17,971,000.

In addition, 38 new waterworks systems are programmed for construction to provide potable water supply to 554,000 people, at a cost of P10,063,135. Thirteen of these are in Luzon, 12 in Visayas and 13 in Mindanao.

The NAWASA further reported that every year for the next two years, 3,000 barrio wells and 500 springs will be developed. This increases to one million annually the number of people served.

The President, aboard the presidential Fokker plane "Common Man", arrives at the Philippine Airforce base operations at 11:40 a.m. from Tuguegarao, Cagayan.

In the afternoon, the President administers the oath of office to three newly promoted officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Inducted are:

1. Brig. Gen. Ismael Lapuz to the rank of major general;
2. Col. Jose B. Ramos to the rank of brigadier general; and
3. CoL Manuel Mandac to the rank of brigadier general.

Following the induction ceremonies of the three officers, the President repairs to his private study where he works on state papers.

**August 17.**—TO boost the growth of local industries and protect consumers against any upward price effects, President Macapagal issues an executive order revising tariff duties on 31 items, under 20 tariff headings.

The executive order is another in the administration's series of measures for price stabilization "following the failure of the Senate, in the recent session of Congress, to extend help to the administration in enacting measures designed to alleviate the well-being of our people."

The executive order covers 49 items but actually affects only 31 items, with 26 major items decreased in rates and five items increased in duties with the rest unchanged. These changes" are mainly protective in nature and designed to encourage the growth of domestic industries."

The major items whose tariff rates are decreased include cigarettes, narrow woven fabrics, anti-biotic bottles/vials, grinding balls and jeeps.

The President decides to exercise his presidential prerogative granted by the Customs and Tariff Code to issue an executive order after he was constrained to veto the Omnibus Tariff Bill last December for lack of material time to go over the items of the enrolled bill transmitted by Congress barely two hours before the deadline.

In his executive order, the President warns against any unwarranted jacking up of prices by those who stand to benefit from the increased tariff protection.

He vows to enforce strictly Section 3 of the Executive Order which provides that “any unwarranted increase in prices of local products benefited by these tariff changes may be sufficient ground for the revocation of such tariff changes.”

He likewise explains that there were no changes made, or at most minimal, on some items where economic conditions and the national interest do not clearly indicate the need for a substantial tariff change.

While the estimated incremental revenue resulting from the tariff changes is minimal, the President nevertheless decides to issue the Executive Order so as to strengthen the nation’s industrial base.

The Chief Executive also bares the members of the Philippine delegation to the Asian Consultative Conference of Foreign Service Development sponsored by the EROPA (Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration) and the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The conference is scheduled to be held in Manila from Sept. 27 to October 1st.

The President accompanied by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina Macapagal, leaves Malacañang at 7:30 a.m. to conduct a tour of the first district of Tarlac.

The First Couple visits and addresses rallies in Camiling, Gerona and Paniqui.

**August 18.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal directs the immediate release of 1,000 hectares of land in Naujan, Oriental Mindoro for distribution to their present occupants.

The land was originally set aside for a proposed National Agricultural School.

The President also inducts Mrs. Comemoracion Concepcion as Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Division of Quezon City.

In the afternoon, the President receives the letters of credence of Abraham Kidron as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Israel to the Philippines.

During the presentation ceremony, the President expresses the hope that the ties of friendship between the Philippines and Israel, which share a common belief in world peace, freedom and human dignity, will be further strengthened.

Kidron, before his transfer to the Philippines, was Israel’s envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Yugoslavia. A product of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, he joined the civil service in the Prime Minister’s office in 1949 and transferred to the foreign service in 1953.

He was appointed consul to Nicosia in 1954, first secretary of the Israeli embassy in London in 1955, and acting director in the Middle East Department in 1959.

At the same time, President and Mrs. Macapagal starts the ball rolling for the 1965 educational and fund campaign of the Philippine Tuberculosis Society, with a personal contribution of P1,000.

The First Couple's contribution gives the campaign an auspicious start with a total cash contribution of P101,810,000 on the eve of the start of the campaign, has a goal of P700,000. The fund drive ends on September 20.

Due to a crowded schedule, the President could not attend the kick-off ceremonies at the GSIS auditorium but instead he is represented by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, who reads the President's speech and turns over their personal contribution to former Ambassador Emilio Abello, general campaign chairman.

In his speech, the President appeals to the generosity of the people to help the Philippine Tuberculosis Society in stamping out tuberculosis by giving generously of their time and money to the campaign so that the Society can expand its facilities and render greater service to the afflicted.

"Give generously and freely so that the specter of the White Plague may be dispelled, so that our people need no longer be exposed to its debilitating effects, so that we may all look forward to a life of health, peace and contentment," the President states.

He points out that the fight against tuberculosis is the fight of everyone and that all have a vital stake in its outcome.

He explains that the society could do much more "if those who are strong of body and in a position to help would turn sympathetic eyes towards it, dig into their pockets and extend financial assistance, and search into their hearts to give it moral and spiritual support."

Underscoring the high mortality rate due to this disease, the President notes that three Filipinos die of tuberculosis every hour, three hundred daily discover that they have the disease, and 24,172 succumb to the disease annually.

**August 19.**—LEADING the nation in remembering the 87th birth anniversary of the late President Manuel L. Quezon—the fiercely nationalistic leader of the Filipino people who fought three foreign invaders in the quest of a free and independent Philippines, President Macapagal lays a wreath at the late leader's tomb at the North Cemetery.

The President, in commemorating the day, issues the following statement:

"Today, 87 years ago, Manuel L. Quezon was born in Baler, Quezon.

"He was destined to be one of the greatest leaders of the Filipino people. "Manuel L. Quezon, father of the present Republic and first President of the Philippine Commonwealth government, died without seeing his dreams realized, but certain of their fulfillment.

"Freedom was Quezon's way of life and towards this end he led his people relentlessly, championing their cause with a social justice program and working himself literally to the bone for their welfare and happiness.

"The years of Quezon's life and service were golden years of peace and prosperity. It was he who kept alive and nourished our country's hopes for independence and ably guided its destiny. With courage and patience, with high statemanship and vision, he continued to live up to the trust his people reposed in him through a crucial period in our history. The war years were filled, for him as for his people, with grief and suffering, but he continued even he was sicked at Saranac, to be a true leader of men.

"We shall long remember the man who, both in peace and in war, was moved by one vision alone: the vision of a free and independent Philippine Republic. We who now enjoy the fruits of his labors must pay him the supreme tribute of emulating his sacrifice and his passion."

Meantime, the President issues a proclamation declaring the period from October 1, this year, to March 21, 1966, as Philippine Youth Mobilization Appeal Time.

In his proclamation, the President placed the celebration of the period under the auspices of Philippine National Committee on Freedom-From-Hunger Campaign.

He stresses “the real need for a national participation in the movement in order to instill in the minds of our youth their responsibility and the role they can play in bringing hope to the people in the world who are still in the grip of hunger, malnutrition, poverty and ignorance.”

From the North Cemetery where he laid a wreath on the tomb of President Quezon, the President motors direct to the New Selecta on Roxas Boulevard where he is guest speaker at the opening of the two-day 11th anniversary and biennial convention of the Philippine Trade Unions Council.

In his speech, the President underscores the necessity of a searching scrutiny of those who would aspire for national leadership as he reiterates his readiness for an appraisal of his personal and official record.

Speaking extemporaneously in Pilipino, the President cautions the country’s labor elements against being carried away by propaganda in their choice of men who should lead the nation in the years ahead.

“There are many who pretend to be friends of labor but are in fact concerned only with serving themselves, and this is all being done through propaganda,” he states.

Because of this, he says, the people should be able to recognize those whose intention is to serve and those whose objective is but personal glorification.

The President points out that many politicians say they care for the masses only to be found out later to have amassed wealth while in office.

“These are the men we should guard against; they are those who would not help the poor among us but instead grab every opportunity for personal aggrandizement,” he says.

Back in Malacañang in the afternoon, the President administers the oath of office to Ramon Mabutas as Assistant City Fiscal of Manila, former staff member of the *Philippines Herald*.

Following the induction ceremony, the Chief Executive motors to Leveriza, Malate where he is guest of honor and speaker at the induction of officers of the screening committee created under Republic Act No. 4145 which transferred to the City of Manila the administration and disposition of a portion of land in the district and converting it into alienable and disposable land.

The lots have an area of about three hectares. Under the Act they will be subdivided into lots of 120 square meters for sale at cost to tenants on a 15-year installment basis.

In the evening, the President receives the 33-man army contingent as part of the Philippine civic action team that leaves for South Viet-Nam in a few days.

The President impresses upon the contingent that the South Vietnamese are a gallant and freedom-loving people who cherish the same love of liberty as Filipinos do.

It is for this reason, he states, that the Philippines is trying to extend whatever little assistance it could to help them in their fight for freedom and democracy.

“On behalf of our countrymen, therefore, I bid you good luck and safety in your travels. We realize how hard it is to be far from your loved ones. You have our prayers to God that He bless and keep you all,” the President concludes.

Then the President boards the presidential car for Lucena City to start a two-day visit of Quezon province.

Meantime, President Macapagal congratulates the officers and, men of the Philippine Navy and Constabulary for their relentless efforts in the prosecution of anti-smuggling drive.

In a citygram to the Philippine Navy Flag Officer, the President cites Cdr. Gil Fernandez of Task Force 31, “for his foresight and ability to disperse his units wisely in our effort to curb smuggling.”

He states that the accomplishments of the Task Force spoke very well of the administration’s endeavor to help in maintaining the security and progress of the nation.

The President likewise sends similar messages to the commanding officers and men of the Navy ships composing Task Force 31.

**August 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, in Unisan, Quezon, names seven new brigadier-generals in the Armed Forces of the Philippines and one commodore in the Philippine Navy. Promoted to brigadier-general are:

1. Col. Jose Abrenica, deputy commander of the AFP Supply center;
2. Col. Mariano Punsalang, PAF chief of staff;
3. Col. Amos Francia, superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy;
4. Col. Guadencio Tobias, commanding officer of the First Infantry Division;
5. Col. Pedro Baban, PAF liaison officer at Clark Air Base;
6. Col. Luis Villareal of the National Defense College, and
7. Col. Mamarinta Lao, commanding officer of the Fourth PC Zone.

Capt. Ramon Alcaraz, chief of naval operations, is promoted to commodore in the Philippine Navy.

Arriving in Agdangan at 11 a.m., the President immediately proceeds to the local Catholic church where a *Te Deum* was sung in his honor by Fr. Modesto Bonzon.

In his speech in Agdangan, the President touches a responsive chord in the hearts of the people of this town as he vowed to pursue the late President Quezon’s social justice program by fighting poverty and implementing his land-for-the-masses program.

The Chief Executive left Lucena city on board the presidential train late this morning after conferring with local officials on matters concerning their province at the residence of congressional candidate Jaime Piopongco of the first district.

While at the Piopongco residence, the President receives a donation of a 517-square-meter lot in Siain from Mayor George L. Young as site for a branch of the Philippine Veterans Bank.

After meeting with local officials, the President motors to Radio Station DZWJ also in Lucena Cay for a meeting with members of the Quezon Press Association, the Press and Radio Club and other local media representatives.

The press conference lasted about an hour, after which he motors to the railroad station, where he was seen off by a large crowd on leaving for Agdangan.

**August 21.**—BACK in Malacañang from, a two-day visit to Lucena City and Quezon province, President Macapagal issues a circular to all provincial governors to prevent unlawful suspension of municipal elective officials who belong to rival parties on slight or transient causes for purposes of discrediting them and/or their party as election day nears.

In his circular, which was issued through Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio, the President directs that cases against municipal elective officials now pending investigation or which may hereafter be filed, shall be given due course in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 2188 *et seq.* of the Revised Administrative Code.

The circular further stipulates that from today until the elections are over, utmost care should be taken in the suspension of municipal officials.

The President directs that except cases of conviction by final judgment of a crime involving moral turpitude, preventive suspension shall be effected only after the governor is satisfied that the charge or charges are so serious and the probabilities of guilt so strong as to warrant removal from office after the investigation.

The President also creates a committee to take charge of preparations and arrangements for the holding in Manila next month of the Ministerial Consultative Conference on Foreign Service in which 19 nations are expected to participate.

The committee is composed of Commissioner Abelardo Subido of Civil Service, chairman; and Miss Conchita Sunico, Tourism Commissioner, as vice chairman.

The holding in Manila of the Ministerial Consultative Conference on Foreign Service from September 25 to 29, this year was unanimously decided during the EROPA Third General Assembly held in Seoul, Korea last November.

Countries expected to participate are Australia, Afghanistan, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Republic of Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Thailand and the Republic of Vietnam.

The President returns to Manila by train after addressing a well-attended rally in Lopez which lasted from 9 p.m. yesterday to past 3 a.m. this morning. After taking a late breakfast upon arrival at the Palace, the President repairs to his study where he works on state papers till lunchtime.

The Chief Executive resumes his paperwork in the seclusion of his private study following a brief rests in the afternoon and in the evening.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## President's Week in Review: August 22-28, 1965

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**August 22.**—ANOTHER step towards alleviating the lot of the lowly workers in Manila and the suburbs was taken by President Macapagal as he orders the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority (NAWASA) to reduce water rates and the National Power Corporation to refrain from increasing electric rates.

The Chief Executive issues the directives to Brigido Valencia, Chairman of both the NAWASA and the NPC boards, in line with the Administration's effort to stabilize prices.

In his directive in connection with the reduction of NAWASA rates, the President observes that losses from the reduction of water rates could be offset by the improvement of the firm's billing and collection procedures.

He warns that the public should not be made to bear the losses suffered by NAWASA through poor billings and collections.

He emphasizes that the system should be renovated and improved, instead of increasing the burden on the consumers.

The President's directives are among the administrative remedies he has to take in view of the failure of Congress to enact adequate measures for the people.

Later in the afternoon, the President together with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, and their children hear mass at the Palace chapel.

In the evening, the President motors to Quezon City where, at a public rally, he proclaims the official candidate of the Liberal Party for the first district of Rizal province.

In his speech at the rally, the President states that "the highest leader of the nation must be one who does not covet wealth for himself and instead seeks prosperity for the people."

The President recalls that Rizal had this quality. "He forsook the comforts of wealth in their Calamba hacienda to suffer privation in Europe."

"Gandhi of India had this quality also," he adds. "He gave up all his wealth and conducted himself in loin cloth to lead his people."

**August 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues a proclamation calling for a special election in Atok, Mountain Province for the purpose of choosing a sixth member of the municipal council.

The vacancy in the council is brought about by the failure of the residents to elect a sixth councilor during the elections of November 12, 1963.

The special election is set to coincide with the forthcoming general elections on November 9, with the elected councilor to serve only the unexpired term of the vacancy.

In another official action, the President signs an executive order turning the municipal district of Tubo in Abra into a municipality effective July 1, 1964.

Creation of the municipality is based on the fact that, as a municipal district, it has realized an average annual income of more than P4,000 during the four consecutive years ended June 30, 1964.



The executive order provides further that the present elective officials of the municipal district would continue to hold their respective positions until their successors are elected in the next general elections for local officials.

Then the Chief Executive motors to the Manila Yacht Club basin on Roxas Boulevard where he is guest of honor and speaker at the christening of two Manila Fire Department fireboats, *Yeba I* and *Yeba II*.

In his speech, the President states that Manila's acquisition of two fireboats best shows what can be accomplished by determination on the part of private citizens "to remove all obstacles impeding the struggle for economic and social progress."

"Fires not only cause grief to the victims but hinder economic development through destruction of property," he says.

The fireboats were acquired by the city free of charge through the Reparations Program upon the approval of President Macapagal.

The President also congratulates the citizens' committee, headed by Heinz Weelke, for raising P100,641.17 needed to get the fireboats delivered from Japan to Manila.

Back in Malacañang before noon, the President administers the oath to the new seven brigadier-generals of the AFP and a commodore of the Philippine Navy whom he had promoted recently.

Those who received their first stars are: Brig. Generals Jose Abrenica, DND comptroller and concurrently deputy commander of the AFP Supply Center; Mariano Punsalang, PAF chief of staff; Amos Francia, superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy; Gaudencio Tobias, acting commanding officer of the First Infantry (Tabak) Division; Pedro Bagan, PAF liaison officer at Clark Air Base; Luis Villareal of the National Defense College; and Mamarinta Lao, commanding officer of the Fourth PC Zone; and commodore Ramon Alcaraz, chief of naval operations.

After inducting the AFP generals, the President swears in Eugenio Eusebio as general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, vice acting Assistant Executive Secretary Juan S. Cancio who had been holding the position in a concurrent capacity. Until his GSIS appointment, Eusebio is governor of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

In the evening, the President boards the presidential car and motors to Sta. Cruz, Laguna for the start of a week-long visit to Southern Tagalog, Bicol and Visayan provinces.

**August 24.**—TO instill upon the minds and hearts of men of goodwill of all nations the necessity of world peace through law to avoid disaster and possibly human annihilation as a result of the ever-accelerating arms race," President Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring Monday (September 13) this year, as World Law Day.

In his proclamation, the President notes that the basic foundation for the peaceful existence of mankind within nations and among nations is law, rules and legal institutions which provide forums for the peaceful resolution of such conflicts when they arise.

The expansion of the rule of law in the world community requires universal agreement on principles, terminology, treaties and conventions which, in turn, requires public support "for the promise and potential of a world ruled by Law," the President declares.

He likewise observes that the designation of 1965 by the United Nations as "International Cooperation Year" is essential to the achievement of a peaceful world order, and that cooperation to build a world legal system is among the most beneficial projects that can be advanced by the "International Cooperation Year."

He calls upon all public and private officials, members of the legal profession, citizens and all men of goodwill to arrange appropriate observances and ceremonies in courts, schools and universities, and other public places where man's need of international law may be recognized.

The President also approves the commissions of 12 officers in the reserve force of the armed Forces of the Philippines.

Of those commissioned, seven are in the medical corps, one is in the dental service, one is in the nurse corps, and three are without specification as to branch of service.

Arriving at Sta. Rosa, Laguna at 1:15 a.m., after a rally in Sta. Cruz some 50 kilometers to the south, the President—in his speech at a public rally—predicts that his re-election would usher in “a golden era of public service.”

Since I no longer will be forced to play politics,” the President explains, “I can give my time and effort to serving our people.”

He adds that all elements will then rally behind him and give him the cooperation that has been denied him all these years.

“The soundness of our programs has been proven,” the President declares. “The most important thing now is continuity, not change.”

After the rally, the President boards the presidential train for the trip to Legaspi City where he is scheduled to take the RPS “21” for Catanduanes and Bohol.

En route to Catanduanes aboard the RPS “21” the President makes the following appointments:

1. Milagros Abella as administrator of the National Cottage Industries Development Authority (NACIDA) in place of Jovito Rivera who is running for Congress;
2. Teofisto Guingona, Jr. as full time governor of the Development Bank of the Philippines;
3. NEC Administrator Hilarion Henares, Jr. as concurrently officer-in-charge of the Presidential Assistant on Community Development (PACD) in place of Abella, until a new PACD chief is named;
4. Jose Rodriguez as member of the board of directors of the Social Security System;
5. Godofredo Pangan as undersecretary of Transportation and Communications, vice Jose Lachica who is a candidate for Congress;
6. Felix Limcaoco, Jr. as Rural Electrification Administrator, vice Pangan; and
7. Judge Zacarias V. Sunga as Public Service Commissioner, vice Alex de Guzman.

Arriving Virac, Catanduanes at 4 p.m., the President proceeds immediately to the town's church where a *Te Deum* was offered for him.

From the church, the President addresses a public rally and then proceeds to the towns of Bato and Calolobo where he addresses other rallies.

**August 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, back in Virac, Catanduanes, names Melanio Singson as acting Secretary of Justice, vice Secretary Salvador L. Marino, who is leaving shortly for abroad on an official mission.

The President also names Geronimo Enriquez as acting Governor of Pampanga, vice Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno who, along with vice Gov. Angel Macapagal have taken leave of absences.

At the same time, the President appoints Celso Fernandez as part-time Governor of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

The President likewise receives a letter from Brigadier General Nguyen Huu Co, commissioner general for war and chief of the RVNAF joint general staff of South Viet-Nam, expressing the “profound gratitude” of the Vietnamese government and people for Philippine assistance to that embattled country.

“We in Viet-Nam are longing for the much needed understanding and assistance from such a brother nation deeply committed to democracy like the Philippines”, Gen. Co informs the President. “We are praying for your success and hoping that under your enlightening leadership our people will continue to receive the concrete and valuable assistance from your Government.”

The third Philippine contingent, composed of surgical, medical and rural health teams, left the other day for a one-year tour of duty in South Viet-Nam.

The President also receives from the Philippine Electric Plant Owners Association a citygram hailing him for his directive to the National Power Corporation not to increase its power rates.

In his message to the President, Peter G. Nepomuceno, president of the PEPOA, writes:

“The Philippine Electric Plant Owners Association extends its profound gratitude to His Excellency in directing the National Power Corporation to refrain from increasing its electric power rates. We believe that the new rates already applied to small power plant operators since January 1963 by the NPC should be lifted also. Again, our deepest gratitude to His Excellency.”

Meanwhile, Philippine economy and finance made notable gains in 1964, the most notable of them being (1) the reduction of the excessive liquidity in the economy with, however, some appropriate expansion of private credits and (2) continued gains in production and employment.

These findings are revealed in the 13th Annual Report of the Consultative Committee of the Colombo Plan, which met in London last November to record highlights of economic progress in the region in 1963.

According to the report, production in the main industries was generally on the uptrend.

During the period, agricultural output rose by 5.6 per cent over the previous year’s level or nearly twice the gain registered between crop years 1962 and 1963.

Production of manufactured goods during the first nine months of the fiscal years 1963-64 increased significantly by 7.7 per cent compared with 4.9 per cent achieved in the comparable months of 1962 and 1963.

The output of Philippine mines also showed a higher increase in fiscal year 1963-64 as compared with the preceding fiscal year.

Overall production of food crops rose by 1 per cent in crop year 1964 despite decrease of 1 per cent in overall hectareage of food crops primarily for domestic consumption and unfavorable weather conditions.

With an increase of 8 per cent in area cultivated, output of export crops like copra and other coconut products, sugar and abaca jumped to a record 15 per cent with improvements in all export items except tobacco.

The report also noted the important role played by irrigation facilities and government assistance through fertilizer and seed subsidy programs.

On the whole, the Colombo Plan report ascribed the gains in agricultural output to use of improved production methods and inducements of higher profits for exports deriving from foreign exchange reforms initiated by President Macapagal in 1962.

To some extent, the report, added, the gains in the agricultural industry may be attributed to the effectiveness of measures adopted in 1963 such as those creating the Fisheries Commission and prohibiting the exportation of “bangus fry” to conserve and develop the fish industry.

On the other hand, the report said Philippine economy was set back by unfavorable foreign exchange position, larger budgetary deficit and rise in prices.

The first two have been traced to large capital outlays needed for new industries while the rise in prices is a reflection of the world-wide trend.

An 8 per cent gain was made in industrial production while mineral output rose by 10.9 per cent in marked contrast to the 4.8 per cent decline during the same period of 1963.

With government encouragement, the report continued, the gold output exceeded the previous year’s level by 16 per cent. Production of base metals also increased by 8.6 per cent.

Basic facilities and services were expanded and improved at a moderate pace during the year, to ease temporarily the unemployment and underemployment problems in rural areas.

Project implementation laid particular emphasis on the most urgent works vital to economic development such as power, irrigation facilities, highways and roads.

Notable gains were registered in highway construction. During the year 738 kilometers of roads were completed, raising the existing main roads to a total of 53,366 kilometers. Other new constructions completed were 57 lineal meters of bridges; some 282 kilometers of main and feeder roads.

Impressive gains in other public works projects were also recorded, among them completion of 1,125 new school buildings, 42 river control projects, development of 23 and 39 feeder airports to raise the total of national airports in operation to 70.

**August 26.**—CUTTING short his scheduled visit to northwestern Catanduanes due to pressing matters of state, President Macapagal flies to Manila in the afternoon.

The President is originally scheduled to tour the towns of Pandan and Caramoan.

At dawn, the President visited the towns of Biga and Bagamanoc in the northwestern part of the island province. He addressed separate rallies there, where the townspeople had patiently awaited his coming.

Boarding the presidential ship RPS “21” at Bagamanoc at 4 o’clock in the morning, the President sailed for Legaspi City from where he takes a plane to Manila.

En route to Legaspi City, the Chief Executive issued a proclamation declaring monday (August 30), as a special holiday in the province of Bulacan. The day marks the 115th birthday of Marcelo H. del Pilar, hero and patriot, who used the *nom de plume* of “Plaridel” in his struggles in Spain to obtain reforms for the Philippines during the Spanish regime.

The President also approved without change the 10th Year Tentative Reparations Schedule which had been prepared by the Reparations Commission and submitted thru and favorably recommended by the National Economic Council.

The President approved the 10th Year Schedule after being satisfied that the selection of the projects in the schedule was primarily based on the maximum economic contributions that each could give to the country's development.

The schedule proper amounting to \$37,500,000 may be broken down as follows: Category A: Capital Goods

|     |                   |                 |
|-----|-------------------|-----------------|
| I.  | Government Sector | \$12,918,000.00 |
| II. | Private Sector    | \$20,104,000.00 |

Category B: Goods Other Than Capital Goods

|    |                |                |
|----|----------------|----------------|
| I. | Private Sector | \$2,700,000.00 |
|----|----------------|----------------|

Category C: Services and Contingencies

|              |                   |                 |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| I.           | Government Sector | \$1,438,000.00  |
| II.          | Private Sector    | \$340,000.00    |
| <i>Total</i> |                   | \$37,500,000.00 |

The \$37,500,000 has been certified as available by the Chief of the Philippine Reparations Mission in Tokyo.

Also included in the approval were 1) the Schedule "B" of the 9th Year Schedule amounting to 815,000,000 comprising projects to be procured out of the savings in the 9th Year Schedule, and 2) the carry over projects from previous schedules not yet been fully implemented.

Among the items approved in the schedule proper were the following projects for the government sector:

- (1) 100 garbage trucks and 28 water pumps for the City of Manila.
- (2) Road-building equipment for the Provinces of Ilocos Sur, La Union, Nueva Ecija, Iloilo, Negros Oriental, Cebu, Albay, Camarines Norte, Palawan, Pampanga, Nueva Vizcaya, Laguna, and Bulacan.
- (3) Bridge construction materials for the Province of Tarlac and the municipality of Pasig.
- (4) Electrical machineries and equipment for the Rural Electrification Administration.
- (5) Composting Plant for San Juan, Rizal.
- (6) Agricultural Equipment for the Commission on Agricultural Productivity.
- (7) Mission expenses, services of Japanese experts and training of Filipinos in Japan.

The items covering the private sector comprise mainly balances of allocations approved in previous schedules including:

- (1) Telecom equipment for the Republic Telephone Company.

(2) Construction materials for the International Hotel.

(3) Floating warehouse for the Northern Cagayan Enterprises, Inc.

(4) Ocean-going vessels for Pan Philippine Shipping, Rocha y Cia and Compania Maritima.

Also included for the private sector were expenses for the services of Japanese technicians in the Philippines and the technical training of Filipinos in Japan.

Arriving in Malacañang at 2 p.m., the President takes a brief rest. Then he repairs to his private study where he works on official papers till past midnight.

Meantime, President Macapagal reiterates his policy that direct payments should be made to tobacco farmers for purchases made by government agencies to enable them to receive the full value of their produce under the tobacco subsidy law.

The President directs Acting Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz to authorize the Agricultural Credit Administration to utilize P1,829,862.47 from the proceeds of sales of its tobacco stocks to liquidate its outstanding obligations to farmers arising from its 1959 tobacco operations.

In granting the authority for the release of P1,829,862.47, the President lays down the condition that the ACA see to it that payments are made direct to the tobacco growers.

The President recently directed the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration to institute, starting September 1, a system of direct payments to tobacco farmers for the 1965 purchases in order to do away with middlemen and other unscrupulous persons who are exploiting the poor farmers.

The President laid down the policy after receiving reports that farmers had been receiving only a fraction of the true value of their produce. Necessity had for years forced them to sell their purchase invoice vouchers, the receipt issued them by the FACOMAS upon delivery of their stocks of flue-cured tobacco, to speculators and traders for as low as 50 per cent of their face value.

Under the new payments plan, farmers will receive their payments direct without the intervention of middlemen. Offices will be established in tobacco-producing regions to handle direct payments.

Under the new payments plan, the President expresses confidence the small tobacco farmers would be freed from the clutches of loan sharks and middlemen who take advantage of the farmers' need for ready money.

**August 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues an executive order creating the Municipal Advisory Health Council with the view to effectively combatting "Cholera El Tor" and other communicable diseases, especially in localities where health and sanitary conditions are below standard.

The municipal health council will be under the direct supervision and control of the Secretary of Health through the Regional Health Director and the Provincial Health Officer.

The Chief Executive also issues the following appointments:

1. Juan L. Utleg as acting director of forestry;
2. Democrito Castro as judge of the court of first instance of Bohol at Talibon (Branch III); and

3. Agustin Frivaldo as regional district judge of the Court of Agrarian Relations at Naga City (IX Regional District, Branch I).

In the afternoon, the President administers the oath of office to Dr. Placido Mapa, Jr., newly appointed second Undersecretary of Finance. Dr. Mapa is concurrently deputy director-general for programming of the Program Implementation Agency.

After the induction ceremony, the President motors to the Manila International Airport and welcomes the first batch of civic-action workers to return from South Viet-Nam.

The 28-man contingent headed by Capt. Renato Reyes, arrives at the Manila International Airport late in the afternoon after completing a year's tour of overseas duty last August 16.

In brief welcome remarks, the President tells the returning contingent he felt "elated by your unselfish participation in implementing the Philippine Republic's historic policy of sharing in the upholding and defense of freedom."

"We have shown this many a time, as when the Philippines participated in the defense of freedom in Korea and in the Congo," the President declares.

He pins on every member of the team of 20 male and four female officers, and four enlisted men awards of Military Merit Medals and of Military Commendation Ribbons.

Back in Malacañang, the President resumes work on state papers in the seclusion of his study till midnight.

**August 28.**—TODAY being the first of the two voter's registration days— the other on Sept. 4th, President Macapagal appeals to the 1.5 million new voters all over the country to register at their nearest election precincts to be able to exercise their right to vote next November's elections.

The President issues the appeal as the Commission on Elections, civic organizations and media of mass communications waged an intensive campaign of information, specially beamed to new voters, to prevail upon them to sign up on either of the two registration days set, preferably the first day, to avoid the last-minute rush.

The campaign of information is being waged by the Comelec all over the country following the Supreme Court's annulment of the new and permanent register of voters prepared through nation-wide registration conducted earlier this year.

At the same time, the President also signs two proclamations:

1. Declaring Tuesday (August 31) a special public holiday in the province of Zambales. The day marks the 58th birth anniversary of the late President Magsaysay; and

2. Declaring September 1 to 7, this year, as Social Security Week.

In declaring Social Security Week, the President underscores the need to foster greater and more widespread consciousness among the people of the importance of social security as an objective of national social policy.

He describes the establishment of the Social Security System as "an important milestone in our country's promotion of Social Justice as embodied in our Constitution."

Since its establishment, he states, the SSS has extended the benefits of social security to hundreds of thousands of workers in private industry throughout the country and has greatly contributed to social progress and the economic development of the country.

But in spite of the progress thus far made in social security, the President stresses, there is still need to make the people conscious of its importance as a national policy.

The Chief Executive likewise extends executive clemency to 32 prisoners. Of those granted clemency, six are for conditional pardon, seven are for absolute pardon, and 19 are for commutation of sentences.

Upon reading published reports that unknown persons were marking faces of schoolchildren in the Manila area, the President directs the National Bureau of Investigation to submit a report immediately on the mysterious branding of the children.

The President arrives Ubay, Bohol at 8 a.m. and immediately proceeds to the public plaza where he addresses a huge rally.

After the rally, he proceeds to Mabini and then to Lilia with whistle-stops at Anda, Valencia and Diniao.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal, in a message on the eve of National Heroes' Day, stresses that homage to national heroes "should transcend words and take the form of a determined national effort to continue in peace the revolution which they so valiantly espoused."

The President's message for the occasion follows:

"We pause today to pay homage to our national heroes.

"Words cannot fully express the pride we feel for those brave Filipinos who gave their precious lives that we may enjoy in peace the fruits of their martyrdom. But we can pay them tribute by resolving in our hearts that the freedom for which they died shall forever endure.

"The national heroes whom we traditionally honor from year to year are but a handful of the thousands upon thousands of unknown heroes who likewise gave of their lives and enriched the native soil to plant the seeds of liberty and democracy. To them, too, we must pay homage. With equal valor they marched shoulder to shoulder in the field of battle to meet the common enemy of freedom. Their simple battlecry was love for home and country; their weapon was courage. These nameless ones, along with the more famous heroes of the land, deserve to be remembered not only today but for always.

"The tribute we must pay to our national heroes should transcend words and take the form of a determined national effort to continue in peace the revolution which they so valiantly espoused, in order to ensure that the freedom which they won for us shall be our country's patrimony forever."

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**



## **President's Week in Review: August 29 - September 4, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**August 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring a land reservation in Pigcawayan, Cotabato as open to disposition under the provision of the Public Land Act.

The proclamation revokes Proclamation No. 370 dated February 17, 1953 reserving the land as a plaza and post office site of. Pigcawayan.

At the same time, the President also issues an executive order declaring the municipal district of Piagapo in Lanao del Sur as a municipality, effective July 1, this year.

The creation of the new municipality is based on the provisions of Republic Act No. 2368.

Under the executive order, the present elective officials of the municipal district shall continue to hold their respective municipal offices until their successors shall have been elected in the next general elections for local officials.

The President, on the second of his three-day tour of Bohol province, disembarks from the RPS "21" at 9 a.m., after hearing mass following barely three hours of sleep on board, for Tagbilaran where he met the local press corps in a spirited press conference.

Then he motors for Janopol with whistle stops at the interior towns of Corella, Sikatuna, and then to Balilihan where he had a late lunch.

Arriving in Janopol at 12:30 p.m., the President addresses a huge rally.

Following the rally, he proceeds to Tubigon with whistle stops to the remote towns of Catigbian, Sagbayan and Clarin, alternately riding in an old Ford car and a jeep.

The last stop of the day was Clarin where he arrived late in the evening.

After the rally, the President returns to the presidential ship RPS "21" where he takes his dinner and rests overnight.

**August 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring Thursday (Sept. 9), a special public holiday in the province of Cebu and the cities of Cebu, Danao, Lapu-Lapu and Toledo.

The Chief Executive issues the proclamation to afford the people of the island of Cebu an opportunity to celebrate with appropriate ceremonies on that day the 87th birth anniversary of the late President Sergio Osmeña, Sr.

Known at, "the Grand Old Man of Cebu," Osmeña was the second President of the Philippine Commonwealth, a patriot, statesman and staunch advocate of nationalism and Philippine independence.

Winding up his three-day visit of Bohol province, the President leaves for Inabanga where he addresses a big rally. Then he proceeds to Jetafe with whistle stop at Buenavista.

In the afternoon, the President leaves for Talibon with whistle stops at Trinidad and San Miguel.

Arriving in Talibon at 7 p.m., the President is met by a huge crowd of well wishers in this town where he addresses a rally.

Then the President boards the presidential ship RPS “21” for Mactan Island.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal pays tribute to the late President

Magsaysay on the eve of the latter’s birth anniversary “for giving voice to the aspirations of the common man and for his great love for freedom.”

The President’s message follows:

“If President Ramon Magsaysay were alive today he would be in the prime of his manhood, for fifty-eight is an age young and vigorous for one of his physical stature and health.

“When the country lost him in a fiery airplane crash at Mt. Manungal he was not yet fifty,-but already he had woven with the sheer simplicity and candor of his nature, a living legend that has been told and retold and which shall forever be revered and cherished in the hearts of all Filipinos as long as democracy remains our way of life.

“He was a product of our post war era, though he owned his roots to the war years when his personal history first started to unfold. He drew sustenance for his intrepid spirit from the knowledge that the people whom he loved with all his heart, loved him as passionately in return. It was this mutuality of affection which impelled Magsaysay to move forward with courage in all the things he did for his country. He brought the enemies of freedom to heel when, even before he became the President of our country, he succeeded in breaking the backbone of Communism in this part of Asia.

“For giving voice to the aspirations of the common man, and for his great love for freedom, we who now enjoy the fruits of his labours and the blessings of his love, will long remember him.”

**August 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrives Lapu-Lapu City after an overnight voyage from Talibon, Bohol.

This city, is the former town of Opon on Mactan Island where Magellan was vanquished by Lapu-Lapu.

The President’s ship docks at the wharf on Muelle Osmeña about 8 a.m.

From the wharf the President, on his way to the residence of the city mayor, listened to the problems of the people from all walks of life who turned up to welcome him.

Then after a brief rest at the mayor’s house, the President motors to the Mactan Alternate International Airport where he boards the presidential plane “Common Man” for Manila.

Arriving in Malacañang at 11:25 a.m. following a three-day visit to Bohol, the President immediately repairs to his private study where he works on state papers.

In the afternoon, the President motors to the Philamlife auditorium to officiate at the presentation of medals and certificates to the 1965 Ramon Magsaysay foundation Awards.

After the ceremonies which lasted for about an hour and 15 minutes, the President returns to Malacañang, arriving at the Palace shortly before 7 o’clock in the evening.

Meantime, President Macapagal deplores what he called the “curse of specialization” of present day society which tends to goad professionals in concentrating all efforts and know-how in one special field to the exclusion of all others.

In a speech read for him by Acting Secretary of Justice Melanio Singson at the 30th anniversary dinner of the Office of the Government Corporate Counsel (OGCC), the President stresses that “the need of the times is for men who know everything about one thing, and a little about everything.”

Key personnel of the OGCC, he states, are doing highly specialized work in a specific field and that it is possible that they may become so immersed in their work as to forget their truer and larger role as lawyers in a modern society.

While a man who wants to be a corporation lawyer must study everything there is to learn about corporation law, the President points out, there are other however things which he, as a member of a modern society and a citizen of a developing country, must in duty learn, such as matters: of economics, political science, history, logic or philosophy.

The President says that a man who deliberately concentrates in one field is doing himself and his country a great disservice because that man becomes narrow and constricted.

“We need specialists, I repeat, but we need well-rounded, well-educated citizens even more, citizens who appreciate the problems of their country and their countrymen, citizens who do not consider themselves too superior to involve themselves in such mundane problems..... remember that we must be specialists of the world before we become too involved in any particular field,” the President concludes.

**September 1.**—GIVING emphasis to an important event in the country’s struggle for freedom, particularly to the people of Nueva Ecija who rose in revolt against Spain September 2, 1896 under the leadership of Gen. Mariano Llanera, President Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring the next day (Sept. 2) a special public holiday in Nueva Ecija and Cabanatuan City.

The Chief Executive issues the proclamation to give the people of the province and city ample opportunity to celebrate the event with appropriate ceremonies.

At the same time, the President appoints Dr. Romulo L. Giray as a member of the board of regents of the University of Eastern Philippines and Dr. Alexander Gordon as acting member of the board of directors of the Philippine Sugar Institute.

He also swears in Col. Hans Menzi of the Philippine Air Force as a brigadier general in the reserve force and six new appointees in the government.

Others inducted by the President are:

1. Dean Felix Espino as commissioner of the Philippine Inventors Commission;
2. Milagros Abella as administrator of the National Cottage Industries Development Authority, vice Jovito Rivera who is a candidate for Congress;
3. Juan L. Utleg as director of forestry, vice Apolonio Rivera;
4. Judge Marina Lopez de Joya as city judge of Quezon City;
5. Dr. Dionisio Parulan as medical commissioner of the Workmen’s Compensation Commission; and
6. Judge Minerva Inocencio Piguing as district judge of the Court of First Instance of Pampanga.

In the evening, the President, together with the first Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, motors to the Manila Hotel where they are special guests at the 62nd anniversary dinner and induction rites of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines.

In his speech, the President states that his administration instituted decontrol precisely to attain greater prosperity in freedom for the business sector.

But then, he explains, true to some apprehensions of its disadvantages, there was reluctance on the part of some segments of the economy to share in the benefits accruing thereto.

Easing of local credits, he warns, would only be done by amending the Central Bank Act to enable other banks to increase their loan capacities.

The President points out that the executive could not get the authority from Congress to incur bonded indebtedness which would be the basic source to be able to extend ample credit. However, he says, he would ask the Central Bank to extend the present 100 days period to 270 days within which to grant refinancing loans to give greater opportunities to the business sector.

Following the rites at the Manila Hotel, the First Couple motors back to Malacañang.

Upon his arrival in the Palace, the President receives a recommendation of Acting Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz to streamline the government machinery to speed up the implementation of vital social and economic development projects.

In his recommendation, Diaz urged specially the decentralization of the supervisory, power exercised by the Office of the President over numerous agencies.

He said that as acting Executive Secretary, he noted with concern the “proliferation” of agencies, which were created by law, reporting directly to the President.

He suggested that this system be changed because the organizational structure of the Office of the President was not geared to supervise all the many various agencies now falling under, its direct control.

Diaz also observed that, among several agencies discharging similar or related functions, some report to a regular department while others are under the supervision of the Office of the President.

“This situation results in an unnecessary waste of resources, time and effort as well as impedes the execution of projects necessary to the economic welfare of the country,” Secretary Diaz stated.

To correct this defect, Diaz said the President instructed him to direct the Council of Administrative Management (CAM) to undertake studies aimed at instituting organizational improvements along areas critical to economic development, namely, agriculture, public works, commerce and industry and government corporations.

The CAM is to report on the administrative steps that may be implemented immediately, as well as make recommendations for legislative action where necessary.

Meantime, President Macapagal presents the award of the Philippine legion of Honor, rank of commander, to Supreme Court Justice Jose Ma. Paredes “in recognition and appreciation of his distinguished and meritorious service to the nation, especially in the judiciary.”

Justice Paredes retired from government service last August 15 upon reaching the statutory retirement age of 70.

In his citation for the jurist, the President states Justice Paredes is “a true jewel of the Philippine bench, for he has made of our courts the real temples of Justice and of our Constitution, the true rampart of democracy,” having held all his positions in the judicial branch of the government with honor, fidelity, devotion and courage.

“It is to the credit of our Judiciary that we have magistrates of such lustrous prestige, ability and uprightness as Justice Jose Ma. Paredes, who render decisions heedless of vengeance or dire consequences, remembering only that Justice must prevail,” the President adds.

A native of Abra, Justice Paredes has been in the government service for 43 years, starting as a clerk in the Manila Fiscal’s Office.

**September 2.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal addresses the first National Convention of Public Utilities held at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel.

In his speech, the President says that the public utilities should seek to operate for maximum service to the people and not just for profit or attaining political power.

He states that public utilities form a vital cog in the nation’s economy and must therefore be geared towards better service to the greatest number instead of being tools for unreasonable profits or political endeavors.

“It is for this reason that the government has been extending whatever assistance it could to help public utilities even in a system of free enterprise,” he points out.

He warns that certain public utilities, instead of suing the benefit they had received from the government for maximum service to the people, applied these advantages to fighting the very objectives for which they had been created.

Back at Malacañang at 4 p.m., the President receives Governor Benjamin Gozon of the Land Authority and some 30 supervisors and officers-in-charge of LA settlement projects throughout the country.

The LA project supervisors and officers-in-charge who are in Manila for a seminar, called on the President to pay their respects

In a brief talk to the Land Reform officials, the President urges them to give all their zest, enthusiasm and fervor in this task of “building for the future of our nation.”

“We shall not fail our people in this crusade,” he states.

Following the call of the Land Reform officials, the President repairs to his private study where he works on state papers.

**September 3.**—TODAY being the last day for the estimated 1.5 million new voters to register in order to be able to vote this coming poll, President Macapagal reiterates his appeal to qualified voters to register with the Commission on Elections “to preserve your right as a citizen.”

In appealing to voters to register, the President said the right to vote “is the most sacred in a democracy.”

The President adds: “Those among us who love democracy and seek its preservation should not forfeit the right to vote.”

Underscoring the importance of the Girl Scouts of the Philippines’ (GSP) character building and citizenship training program which it has continuously carried out during its 25 years of existence, the President issues a proclamation

setting aside the period from November 15 to December 31 this year for the national fund campaign outside Greater Manila of the GSP.

In his proclamation, the President points out that the organization, with a membership of 164,000, acts as a strong deterrent to juvenile delinquency through its program of wholesome activities, camp and community work, and promotes world peace and understanding by participating in international events.

The Chief Executive likewise approves the conferment of the Philippine Legion of Honor on three American citizens who had contributed much to Philippine progress in the social, political and educational fields.

To be conferred the Philippine Legion of Honor are:

1. Dr. Joseph Ralston Hayden (posthumous), rank of commander;
2. Dr. Harley Bartlett, rank of officer, and
3. Dr. Ray Stanley Swinton, rank of officer.

Dr. Hayden, onetime vice-governor general and acting governor general of the Philippines, devoted much of his time to the study of Philippine social and political institutions, and was an exchange professor at the University of the Philippines.

As General MacArthur's civilian adviser, he participated in the Leyte landing during the Liberation and set up the Philippine Civil Affairs Unit which led to the reestablishment of Civil government under President Osmeña.

Drs. Bartlett and Swinton have long been associated with educational progress in the Philippines, and their homes in Michigan are always open to Filipino students abroad needing help. Dr. Swinton, a UP exchange professor, is the father of Dr. Stanley Swinton, director of the World Services of the Associated Press.

The President leaves Malacañang in the morning for Muñoz, Nueva Ecija to officiate at the award ceremonies for winners of the 1964-65 National Rice and Corn Production Contest held at the Maligay Rice Research and Training Center.

Arriving in Muñoz, Nueva Ecija at 11:35 a.m., the President is greeted by a huge crowd that had gathered to witness the award ceremonies and hear him speak.

During the award rites, the President also takes occasion to distribute original certificates of titles and free patents to about 50 farmers from several Nueva Ecija towns.

Following the ceremonies, the President proceeds to Guimba where he addresses another large rally.

From Guimba, the President proceeds to Nampicuan and Cuyapo for the last rallies of the day.

The President rests overnight at the residence of Gov. Eduardo Josen.

**September 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal ends his two-day visit to Nueva Ecija as he tours seven other towns in this province the whole day before returning to Manila.

Five hours behind schedule, the President addresses rallies in Peñaranda, San Antonio, San Isidro and Cabiao which are expected to last up to 3 a.m. the next day.

Earlier, the President signs a proclamation declaring the decade from August 1965 to July 1975 as Philippine Forestry Development decade.

In issuing the proclamation, the President stresses that there was need for the people to keep alive an awareness of the importance of our forests and their development and preservation in the sustained socio-economic growth of the country.

The proclamation also charged the Committee on Wood Industries Development under the Office of the President with the additional function and responsibility of drafting and implementing policies intended to make the Forestry Development Decade fruitful and effective.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal sends a telegram congratulating the chief of police of Jose Abad Santos, Davao and his men for their confiscation of blue seal cigarets in Barrio Caburan on July 24. The President's telegram reads:

"Please convey my personal congratulations to Chief of Police Virgilio Rodriguez, Patrolmen Andrew Pahl, Benjamin Accho, Prisco Lopez and Bravo Gurandiano of the Municipal police force of Jose Abad Santos, Davao for the confiscation of 1,842 cartons and six packs of blue seal cigarets on July 24 off Barrio Caburan. I have read the report of the sea chase and the successful apprehension of smugglers which makes me proud of the quality of policemen we have in this town. Again my congratulations for the job well done."

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: September 5-11, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**September 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal returns from a two-day barnstorming tour of 11 towns in Nueva Ecija where he also officiated in the awarding of prizes to the winners of the 1964-1965 national rice and com production contest at Barrio Maligaya in Muñoz.

The Chief Executive arrives at Malacañang at exactly six o'clock in the morning. The towns he visited were Muñoz, Guimba, Cuyapo, Nampicuan, Sto. Domingo, Talavera, San Leonardo, Peñaranda, San Antonio, San Isidro and Cabiao.

Back at Malacañang, the President approves the recommendations of Acting Executive Secretary Ramon A. Diaz for the coordinated nationwide development of the coconut industry, and issues an executive order creating the Coconut Development Committee.

Creation of the committee had been the most serious study by the Program Implementation Agency for sometime. It will be directly under the Office of the President and has the following functions and responsibilities:

1. Discuss and objectify current situations confronting the coconut industry;
2. Submit recommendations for either implementation by the President or for passage of legislation by Congress, concerning policies, programs and other matters affecting the industry;
3. Conduct research and market development programs to insure the growth of the industry;
4. Harness available potential resources from both private and government sectors for the development of the industry; and
5. Coordinate, collate, resolve or reconcile policies, findings and acts or activities of all policy, promotional, development, regulatory and research groups concerned with the coconut industry.

The President spends the day working on official papers in the seclusion of his private study.

In the evening, the President together with the members of his family, hears Mass at the Palace chapel.

Meantime, President Macapagal states that the death of Dr. Albert Schweitzer in Lambarene, Gabon was "a loss to humanity."

In a message, the President said:

"Dr. Schweitzer belonged to that rare breed of men, for whom fame and material success were inconsequential. Dr. Schweitzer could have led a more affluent life both as a doctor and a musical celebrity. That he preferred to spend the best years of his life in Africa, ministering to the sick and the afflicted, is proof of a love that transcends everything. His death is a loss that has impoverished humanity. We can pay no better tribute to his memory than for humanity to continue the great work that he started, not only in Africa but in all parts of the world where human suffering still prevails, with the same spirit of selfless dedication and compassion as Dr. Schweitzer.

**September 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal signs an administrative order amending Administrative Order No. 84, dated Feb. 1, 1964, changing the composition of the National Civil Aviation Policy Committee.



As amended, the Committee shall be composed of the following: the chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board, as chairman; the Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs, the Commanding General of the Philippine Air Force, the chairman of the Board or the President of the Philippine Air Lines, Inc., and the chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Philippine Tourist and Travel Association, as members.

The Committee is charged with the function of studying and formulating a National Civil Aviation Policy.

At the same time, the President receives a message of thanks, from the son of the late Dr. Ray Stanley Swinton, a U.P. exchange professor who was “conferred posthumously with the Philippine Legion of Honor last week for his contribution to educational progress in the Philippines.

In a cablegram *to* the President, Stanley Swinton, Jr., director of the World Services of the Associated Press, writes:

“Both on my own behalf and on behalf of my two sisters, let me express my gratitude for the honor you have extended to my late father. Nothing was more important in his life than the Philippines and were he alive today, the decoration which you have given him would be a high spot in a highly productive life.”

The President spends the whole morning working on state papers.

In the afternoon, he receives several provincial delegations that took up with him local problems.

Following the calls of the provincial officials, the President resumes working on official matters in the seclusion of his study.

**September 7.**—GIVING due recognition to the role of EROPA (Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration) and to its contribution to national progress, President Macapagal signs a proclamation declaring Sept. 27 as EROPA Day.

The date coincides with the opening of the Asian Consultative Conference on Foreign Service Development sponsored by the Philippine Government and the EROPA. The conference ends on Oct. 3.

In issuing the proclamation, the President states that since its organization in 1960, the EROPA has been an effective instrument for bringing about good government among the member countries and fostering regional cooperation in the field of public administration.

Nineteen countries from Asia and the Far East participates in these conference.

Following the signing of the proclamation, the President motors to the Philippine Navy headquarters where he boards the RPS “21” for Calbayog City.

Before departure, the President encloses himself with fiscal advisers in his cabin aboard the presidential ship to finalize his veto message on the 1966 budget.

With the President during the huddle on the veto message are Finance Secretary Rufino G. Hechanova and Program Implementation Agency Director-General Armand Fabella.

The President receives from Secretary Hechanova a report on the Monetary Board resolution paving the way for the refund to business concerns of payments for dollars at P3.90, which were originally committed at only P3.20.

The President spends the rest of the day, while en route to Calbayog, working on state papers which he brought along on the trip.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal stresses that the Social Security System and all other government institutions should continue to have one paramount goal, “that of helping the common man enjoy life and enjoy it more abundantly within the context of a free society.”

In a speech read for him by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, at the 310th anniversary celebration of the SSS the President pays tribute to President Quirino for initiating social security in the Philippines and to President Magsaysay for signing the social security law and laying the groundwork for the huge institution.

The President points out that in addition to social security, the government must also provide the opportunities, create the incentives and set the climate which can effectively cushion all economic shocks and eliminate all economic barriers.

He states that with a stronger structural base for the economy, the country can support a more dynamic social security system and shall make possible increasingly progressive and more generous social security benefits.

The President likewise urges the SSS to conduct studies and plans to liberate “our farmers from the bondage of centuries” after noting that only a limited number of agricultural workers are covered by present social security programs.

**September 8.**—UNDERSCORING the vital role of lawyers not only in the administration of justice but also in the socio-economic progress of the country, President Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring Monday (Sept. 13) as Law Day in the Philippines.

In issuing the proclamation, the President says that it was but fitting and proper that such a vital role in the life” and well-being of the nation be brought to the attention of the people.

At the same time, he urges the various bar and lawyer’s associations throughout the country to celebrate the day fittingly.

The President also signs another proclamation declaring Monday a special public holiday in the province of Marinduque.

September 13 marks the anniversary of the Battle of Pulang Lupa 65 years ago at Torrijos, Marinduque, where a handful of Filipinos scored one of the most notable military victories in the Filipino-American war.

He issues the proclamation to “afford an opportunity to commemorate this important event in their country’s history the more to inspire them to greater deeds for their country.”

Still enroute to Calbayog City, President Macapagal declares that he was “happy to report to the people that he expects a drastic drop in the prices of life-saving drugs and medicines in view of the laudable decision of the Supreme Court which supported a long-standing fight of the Administration, through the National Economic Council, to wage an all-out campaign to reduce the prices of essential drug and food items.”

The President likewise hails the Supreme Court’s precedent-setting decision which he said would ameliorate the living conditions and promote the health and well-being of the masses while simultaneously assisting local industrialist to gain a foothold in the drug manufacturing industry.

The Supreme Court decision allows any company to avail of a compulsory license for any patented drug or food after a period of three years from the time of the granting of the original patent. This decision does not limit the licensees to working the patents in the Philippines but allows them to import preparations for the process of the patented food or drug items.

In congratulating the Supreme Court, the President says that the high tribunal demonstrated once more its admirable sense of justice, foresight and fairness, particularly when it comes to the interests of the greater number of people.

“Meantime, as the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization celebrates its 11th anniversary amid swiftly gathering storm clouds that threaten to put its very existence to a severe acid test, President Macapagal—in a message for the occasion—states that the Philippines is “prepared to explore with candor and realism the present situation in this region, and to find out in what ways SEATO can continue to counteract or deter the inroads of Communist subversion in the Treaty Area.”

The President’s message follows:

“Today, as we mark the 11th anniversary of the founding of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization, I wish to, reiterate my country’s hopes that the SEATO will continue exerting its vital influence in Asia not only as a deterrent against Communist aggression but as a dynamic force for progress in this section of the globe.

“Our general view is its continuing role in relation to current and future developments in Southeast Asia. Towards this end, we are prepared to explore with candor and realism the present situation in this region, to find out in what ways SEATO can continue to counteract or deter the inroads of Communist subversion in the Treaty Area. Likewise we are prepared to examine recent trends towards new patterns of regional cooperation and unity in Southeast Asia and to consider how these developments can help show the member nations the way to greater economic and cultural progress for the next decade.

“These assurances are given as an earnest of our resolve to adhere to the principles and purposes to which SEATO was dedicated more than a decade ago in Manila. May these principles continue to guide all the other members of SEATO as we move forward together with faith and confidence towards our common goal of peace and prosperity.”

The President starts the first-day of his scheduled tour of Samar with his arrival at 1 p.m. at Calbayog City which is marking its annual fiesta. He has slated a week-long tour of Eastern Visayas (including Samar).

He arrives here aboard the Philippine Navy ship RPS “21”. From the wharf, the President proceeds to the city church for the *Te Deum* rites.

Following the *Te Deum*, the President addresses a rally at the plaza.

After the rally, the President boards the ship for Catbalogan.

**September 9.**—AS the nation marks the 87th birth anniversary of the late President Sergio Osmeña, President Macapagal—describing the Cebuano statesman’s life “as a clarion call to all elements of our country so that our people may rise to new heights of moral sanity and integrity,” calls upon the people to rally behind Osmeña’s great moral principles and make of them the true guideposts to national progress.

The President’s message for the occasion follows:

“Today we celebrate the 87th birth anniversary of the late President Sergio Osmeña, one of our country’s truly great leaders and statesmen.

“In the active service of his country as well as in retirement, President Osmeña was always the true gentleman. His public morality, his patience and fairness in dealing with the manifold problems of state—and, above all, his loyalty and quiet statesmanship are qualities which belong to all great leaders of men the world over.

“The guiding principle which motivated Don Sergio’s public life was his loyalty to his party and his people. Never in the more than half a century of service to his country was Don Sergio known to have given way to selfish considerations. Above all, unity within the party must be preserved, according to his precept of good government,

for without unity there is bound to be confusion—and with confusion there will result an inevitable breakdown in public service.

“His life was a clarion call to all elements of our country so that our people may rise to new heights of moral sanity and integrity. This is perhaps the meaning of his rich and exemplary life. By its example I have pledged to be guided, as I call upon our countrymen to rededicate themselves to moral values and bring about a renaissance of the virtues that Don Sergio honored.

“As we celebrate President Osmeña’s 87th birthday anniversary, I invite our countrymen to rally behind his great moral principles “and make of them the true guideposts to national progress.”

The President issues a proclamation transferring the observance of Courtesy Week from the second week of October to the fourth week of January every year.

In proclaiming the Week, the President points out that the celebration of Courtesy Week has proved effective in paving the way for a more courteous and dedicated service in the government.

However, he states, such an occasion should be celebrated more fittingly at the beginning of the year in order to inculcate in the minds of government employees the need for courtesy in their dealings with the general public.

At the same time, the Chief Executive signs an administrative order creating the Philippine National Committee on Freedom from Hunger Campaign, as a counterpart of the United Nations Food And Agriculture Organization and the Philippine National FAO Committee.

The President said the reasons in creating the National Committee on Freedom from Hunger Campaign are to:

- (1) Bring before the people the reality of hunger which confronts all developing countries, including the Philippines;
- (2) Stimulate and support nationwide action to bridge the gap between available and optimum food supplies through informational education, cooperative efforts and research; and
- (3) Adopt such other measures as will achieve a better understanding of providing adequate food for the present and future population of the world.

The creation of the Committee was made in answer to an invitation from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for member countries to join in the collective effort to remove the threat of hunger, which was launched on July 1, 1960.

The National Committee, which will continue to exist up to June 30, 1970, has been authorized to raise funds by voluntary contributions to meet its financial obligations.

The President concludes his two-day tour of Samar. The last town he visited is Guiuan before lifting anchor for the other half of his campaign in Southern Leyte.

The President, leaving this town this morning, arrives in Maasin, Leyte del Sur at 5 p.m.

**September 10.**—ARRIVING off Burgos, Leyte del Sur on board the RPS 21 from Guiuan, Samar where he asked the people to give him his remaining chance to fulfill his dream of providing the people, particularly the poor, with a better life, the Chief Executive commutes the sentences of 15 prisoners and grants pardons to 14 others, six of them given absolute pardons.

After signing the commutation and pardon orders, the President debarks from the RPS “21” for Burgos to which the ship was diverted by inclement weather and rough seas.

From Burgos, the President motors to Maasin where the ship was originally scheduled to dock and the President to address a rally.

While in Maasin, the President signs the appointment papers of Ildefonso Puerto and Maximo Llanto, Jr. as municipal judges of Sta. Maria and New Corella, both of Davao, respectively, and Mayor Leberato LI. Reyna of Dagupan City as acting member of the NACIDA board of directors.

The Chief Executive, addressing a well-attended rally in Malitbog, Leyte del Sur, expresses confidence of his victory, adding that his reelection will give the country its “first experience and opportunity to have a non-political president in a regular second term of office”.

**September 11.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal takes a break from his campaign to greet Senate President Ferdinand E. Marcos, NP presidential candidate, on his 48th birthday.

Before disembarking from RPS “21”, the President sent the following

“Mrs. Macapagal and the children join me in wishing you a happy birthday, we wish you continued good health and prosperity.”

During the day, President Macapagal also receives from Mayor Clemente Abaya of Candon, Ilocos Sur a message expressing the gratitude of the people of his town for the President’s help in getting their schools and roads repaired.

Mayor Abaya’s telegram to the President follows in full:

“Candon people ever grateful to you for your generous aid for the repair of our schools and roads. May God bless you and the First Lady and bestow upon you continued success. Thank you again and humbly accept my people’s wishes for your re-election.”

At the same time, the Chief Executive gets the support of the Philippine Labor Unity Movement (PLUM) and the Consolidated Labor Party (CLP) in his bid for reelection. Their support was announced through then president, Atty. Vicente A. Rafael.

The PLUM and the CLP, in a letter to the Chief Executive, stated they would support the President’s re-election because of his “sincerity, integrity, humble beginnings, conviction to save the masses, courage in revolutionary reform and the need to finish his socio-economic program.”

Before disembarking from the RPS “21” at Abuyog to resume his stump of Leyte province, the Chief Executive designates Salvador L. Marino as acting executive secretary and Code Commission Chairman Ruperto Martin as justice undersecretary.

Mariño will take the place of Ramon A. Diaz, who is LP senatorial candidate while Martin takes the place vacated by Melanio Singson who is running for the lone congressional district of Isabela.

The designation of Marino, who will perform the duties of the executive secretary until a permanent one is appointed, was made for the reason that having been executive secretary, he is familiar with the work and so that there is no break in continuity of the service.

Martin, who is also dean of the University of the East law school, will be acting justice secretary in view of the leave of absence of Sec. Marino from the position.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: September 12-18, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**September 12**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, on the fifth day of his Leyte-Samar tour arrives at Tacloban City where he addresses a night rally at the local St. Paul's gymnasium which lasts until the early hours of the morning.

The President receives rousing applause as he addresses the well-attended rally in flawless Visayan.

After the rally, the Chief Executive retires at 4 a.m. to the RPS '21' docked at the city wharf where he rests briefly before he resumes another hectic day of stumping other Leyte towns.

The President hits Carigara after speaking schedules which included rallies in Burauen, Alanglang and Dagami, with whistle-stops in half a dozen other communities.

After the Carigara rally, the President boards the RPS "21" for Masbate en route to Boac, Marinduque where he will be the guest of honor and speaker at ceremonies marking the first observance of "Marinduque Day".

**September 13**.—THE President arrives at Gapan Airport, Boac, Marinduque aboard the plane 'Common Man' from Masbate late this morning where he is the guest of honor and speaker at the 'Marinduque Day' ceremonies. The day, which marks the first observance of the Battle of Pulang Lupa where a band of Filipino soldiers led by Col Maximo Abad routed a company of American invaders 65 years ago, was earlier proclaimed as special public holiday in that province by the President.

The Chief Executive, after the civic-military parade in the provincial capital, confers the Philippine Legion of Honor Awards, with the rank of commander, posthumously upon 16 members led by Col. Maximo Abad, who took part in the historic encounter. The nearest kin of the Pulang Lupa battle heroes receive the awards in behalf of the heroes.

Receiving the award for Colonel Abad is his son, Ramon, a Manila businessman.

Other posthumous awardees are Capt. Cayetano Vida, Capt. Pedro Lardizabal, Lt. Teofilo Roque, Lt. Gumersindo de la Santa, Lt. Is'abelo Silva, Lt. Raymundo Recalde, Lt. Luciano Parrefio, Lt. Rosauo Luwalhati, Sgt. Silvino Paglinawan, Sgt. Victor Mascarinas, Sgt. Herculano Josue and Sgt. Alejandro Manguerra.

After the presentation of awards, the Marinduque provincial board also gives an award to the President for taking cognizance of the "Day".

Aside from the President and representatives of the battle heroes, Jesus Cabarrus, president of the Marinduque Iron Mines, who sponsored the writing contest on the history of Marinduque which led to the "discovery of the Battle of Pulang Lupa," also attended the celebration.

The reenactment of the famous battle at the capitol grounds highlights the Marinduque Day rites.

Back to Manila in the afternoon, the President directs the Philippine Air Force to extend all possible assistance in the search for the Fairways DC-3 plane which had been missing since Saturday.

The President expresses concern over the fate of the plane's seven passengers and three crew members in view of the turbulent weather which had foiled attempts to locate the missing plane that was on a shuttle run between Cebu and Bacolod City.

After a brief rest, the President motors to the National Development Company compound where he is the guest speaker at the formal signing of the blueprint for the subdivision of a four-hectare land in the compound and its resale to present occupants.

In impromptu remarks in Pilipino, the Chief Executive pledges that in consonance with Land Reform Law implementation which was geared at liberating the farmer from age-old tenancy, he will continue the policy of awarding land to landless families like those of the NDC.

The President, in giving his pledge, stresses that the people should never accept at this stage of the country's history a national policy whereby only a few own lands with the rest not having a spare inch of soil to call their own.

"I believe that the fundamental right of a Filipino is to have food and shelter for himself and his family. The Philippines was not given by God to just a few but to all Filipinos," the President adds.

In the course of his speech, the President also makes known that like the NDC, some 13 hectares of land within the NAWASA compound in Quezon City would also be subdivided and sold to its present occupants.

During the program, the President receives a plaque of appreciation from the NADECO Residents' Association, Inc. headed by its president Dr. Senen L. R. Asuan for their "great respect, love, admiration and undying gratitude for approving the purchase of the NDC lots for resale to their present occupants in his honest desire to implement his socio-economic program by providing lands for the landless."

Under the subdivision plan, the NDC land will be subdivided into lots of from 120 to 300 square meters and will be sold to occupants at P55.00 a square meter payable in 20 years.

Meanwhile, the Chief Executive declares that a "topnotch civil service" can be attained through a sweeping change in attitude both on the part of the public. and the civil servants.

The President makes the declaration in his speech which was delivered for him by PIA Director-General Armand Fabella at the GSIS Social Hall during the opening ceremonies of Civil Service Week.

The President states that "the emergence of an efficient civil service depends, not just on the civil servants themselves, but on the citizens that the servants are pledged to serve."

"And if that government is made up of employees who are inefficient and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate the inefficiency and abet the corruption," the President further states; adding that while the leadership of the government must initiate reforms, success can only go as far as the public is willing to support it.

While making the government employees realize that government service is a privilege and not a right vested upon them by virtue of political connections, the President says that the public must be made to understand that it is no imposition to expect loyal and dedicated service but in fact the public must demand this service.

It is "only then can we get the civil service that we want," the Chief Executive concludes.

**September 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal signs the appointments of Mrs Nieves Moran, widow of the late Chief Justice Manuel Moran, and Norberto L. Ela, as member of the Board of Censors for Motion Pictures and municipal judge of Magpet, Cotabato, respectively.

The President also declares Friday, September 17, as a special public holiday in the province of Tarlac to give the people of that province the opportunity to observe with fitting ceremonies the birth anniversary of Gen. Francisco Makabulos, one of the outstanding Filipino generals during the country's fight for independence against Spain and the United States.



Meanwhile, the President cables Miss Gemma Cruz and Antonio Araneta wishing the couple “all the happiness in the world” on the eve of their wedding in Avila, Spain.

The text of the cablegram follows in full:

“Mrs. Macapagal and the children join me in wishing the both of you all the happiness in the world. I am sure our nation shares our prayer that your union be fruitful and forever blissful.”

Before leaving for Bulacan where he is to address proclamation rallies, the Chief Executive administers the oaths of office to the following new appointees:

1. Dean Ruperto Martin as undersecretary of justice, vice Melanio T. Singson who is a candidate for the lone congressional seat of Isabela. Until his appointment, Martin was chairman of the Code Commission and dean of the UE College of Law;
2. Administrator Godofredo Pafigan of the Electrification Administration as undersecretary of public works, vice Jose Lachica who is also running for Congress in Sorsogon;
3. EA Deputy Administrator Felix Limcaoco as administrator of the Electrification Administration, vice Pañgan; and
4. Manuel Leelin as part-time governor of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

In Baliuag, Bulacan, the President declares that his “Land for the Masses” program is the most practical answer to the life-long dream of every Filipino to possess a piece of land he can call his own.”

“What has been denied your fathers and their fathers before them is now a reality,” the President adds.

Because of the “land for the masses” program and other projects started by the Administration such as the restoration of free enterprise, construction of low-cost housing units for the poor, construction of the Pan Philippine Highway and many others, the President says “there is a need now more than ever for another four-year mandate so that the things we have started can be completed and consolidated to bring the greatest good to all our people.”

“With all Administration projects halfway to success, there is great need for their completion to bring about a bright future for our country,” he further states.

From Baliuag, President Macapagal motors to the provincial capital at Malolos to address another rally.

In Malolos, the President urges the electorate to be very careful in choosing the national leaders in the coming elections.

The crowd applauds the President as he discusses his rice and corn subsidy measure which, he says, could have increased the earnings of the farmers, particularly in Central Luzon and contributed to national self-sufficiency, had it been enacted.

**September 15.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal signs a proclamation declaring Monday, September 27, as a special public holiday in commemoration of the centenary of the hero and patriot, Miguel Malvar.

In issuing the proclamation, the President observes that the centenary of Gen. Malvar, the last Filipino general to surrender to the Americans during the Filipino-American war, should be observed fittingly.

The Chief Executive also directs the Social Welfare Administration and the Philippine Constabulary, and asks the Philippine National Red Cross, to take necessary steps in extending all aid to 200 families rendered homeless by fire in Butuan City.

Meanwhile the President receives a cablegram from Liberato Mariñas of the *Philippines Herald* informing the former of the re-affirmed leadership of the Philippines in Asian journalism during the Asian Press Organization's second assembly in Jerusalem, Israel.

Mariñas was reelected president of the APO while Generoso Marcial of the *Weekly Graphic* was elected secretary-general.

The President asks the Manila Police Department to take action on the case of a 77-year old man killed last Sunday by hit-and-run bus driver.

The President also directs acting Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño to "get in touch immediately" with MPD Chief Eugenio Torres regarding the case of Antonio L. Salvador, who was run over by a speeding bus on Dos Castillas and España, Sampaloc.

Enplaning for Negros Occidental early in the afternoon, the President tells a well-attended public rally in Victorias he believed he has served the welfare of the province which is dependent on export industries like sugar when he eliminated economic controls.

The decontrol, the President explains, raised the gross income of those in the sugar industry from P2.00 per dollar to P3.90.

**September 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal names Philippine Ambassador to the United States Oscar Ledesma as head of the Philip pine delegation to the United Nation Sugar Conference from September 20 to October 15 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Other members of the Philippine delegation are Philippine Ambassador to Spain Leon Ma. Guerrero, co-chairman; and Ernesto Escaler and Amado G. Garcia, members.

The President likewise designates Rogelio D. Tandigan, acting administrative officer of the Radio Control Office, as a member of the Philippine delegation to the International Telecommunications Union Plenipotentiary Conference in Montreux, Switzerland.

The Lawyers' League of Cabanatuan City headed by its president, Rafael E. Villarosa hails President Macapagal for the appointment of Dean Ruperto G. Martin as undersecretary of justice.

In his wire to President Macapagal, Villarosa states:

"The officers and members of the Cabanatuan Lawyers' League hail the appointment of Hon. Ruperto G. Martin as undersecretary of justice."

Meanwhile, the President resumes his Negros Occidental tour in the municipalities of Hinigiran, Bago, Binalbagan and Kabangkalan in where he "addresses equally well-attended rallies.

From Hinigiran, the President boards the RPS 21 for Estancia, Iloilo for a tour of Panay province.

**September 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal joining him in his tour, receives an enthusiastic welcome from huge crowds in Iloilo.

Arriving separately, the President receives a warm welcome from a large crowd led by Governor Rafael Palmares and Iloilo 4th and 5th districts officials as he disembarks from RPS 21 in Estancia, while the First Lady gets a similar welcome from Iloilo's "Lakambinis" at the province's airport where she flew in after a two-day stay in Mindanao in connection with Operation "Sagip."

The First Lady attends four big gatherings of local women leaders while President Macapagal tours the province's third district until midnight. Meanwhile, the Chief Executive announces that broad ranging socio economic development designed to tap and develop fully the resources of Mountain Province will soon be implemented.

He confers with Sinai C. Hamada Chairman of the Mt. Province Development Authority (MPDA) whom the former asks to expedite the completion of a development plan for the province.

The Mt. Province Development Authority is to submit the regional development plan for the province to Malacañang with the assistance of the Program Implementation Agency.

Republic Act No. 4071, which created the MPDA, seeks to foster an accelerated and balanced development of Mt. Province in line with the Five-Year Socio-Economic Development Program through the leadership guidance and support of the government.

Aside from drawing up the regional development plan, the MPDA will:

- 1) Provide leadership in the setting up of pioneering or ground-breaking industrial and agricultural enterprises;
- 2) Coordinate and integrate activities of various public and private entities engaged in projects affecting power, manufacturing, mining, transportation and communication, conservation, resettlement, education, extension work, health and other socio-economic activities; and

Extend or facilitate the extension of financial, management and technical support to worthwhile industrial and commercial ventures within the province.

In preparing the regional development plan, the MPDA and PIA will undertake an intensive economic survey of the potentialities of the province prior to finalizing the economic blueprint.

The President said he had given the go-signal to the MPDA to finish the program so as to have its projects implemented as fast as concrete recommendations are submitted.

Among the priority projects for development are a multi-million peso vegetable industry and a tourist industry.

The development plan will embrace the Ifugao, Kalinga, Bontoc, Apayao and Benguet regions, including Baguio City.

Representing these regions in the MPDA board are Hamada, Benguet; Ceferino B. Ramirez, Kalinga; Domingo Anannayo; Ifugao; John Lamien, Bontoc; and another member still to be appointed.

Hamada characterizes the plan as a "milestone in the economic history of Mountain Province."

"This is the first time that the province will have an economic development program to guide the utilization of its rich and diverse resources," he says.

The Chief Executive also certifies to the Court of Industrial Relations for compulsory arbitration the labor dispute between the management of the strike-bound Pan American World Airways and the members of the Pan American Employees Association.

In a letter to the presiding judge of the CIR, the President through Acting Secretary Salvador L. Marino, observes that the strike, if prolonged, will cause “untold inconveniences to the traveling public, including the segment that is dependent on the Pan Am planes for connections flights to other points abroad.

The text of the letter which was signed by Secretary Marino by authority of the President, follows in full:

The President has taken cognizance of a labor dispute between the management of the Pan American World Airways and the members of the Pan American Employees Association and of a strike which has not been settled.

The dispute centers on the union’s claim that the company is engaged in union-busting activities as allegedly shown by the lay-off of seven union members and the harassment of union members and officials. Conciliation efforts by the Department of Labor have proved in vain and the situation has deteriorated into a serious impasse.

The Pan American World Airways makes regularly scheduled flights to the Philippines pursuant to an international agreement. It handles the transportation of passengers, mail, commercial and industrial items to and from the Philippines. The regular nights of the company are depended upon and availed of by numerous people and entities.

The strike, if prolonged, will cause untold inconveniences to the traveling public, including the segment that is dependent on the Pan-Am planes for connecting flights to other points abroad. The free flow of commerce will be hampered to a considerable degree and the tourist trade will be adversely affected. Moreover, since the stop-over of Pan-Am planes in the Philippines is made difficult, if not impossible, by the current strike, the Philippines finds itself incapable of living up to its international commitment in this respect, thus resulting in our national embarrassment. The labor dispute therefore clearly affects an industry indispensable to the national interest.

Pursuant to Section 10 of Republic Act No. 875, otherwise known as the Industrial Peace Act, the President hereby certifies the said dispute to the Court of Industrial Relations and requests the Court to take immediate steps in the exercise of its powers under the law.

**September 18.**—THE Malvar Centennial Committee hails President Macapagal for declaring September 27 as a special public holiday.

The day marks the centenary of the hero and patriot, Miguel Malvar, who was the last Filipino general to surrender to the Americans during the Filipino-American war.

Speaking on behalf of the Malvar family, Malvar Centennial Committee Chairman Jose M. Villegas, Jr., in his wire to the President, says:

“On behalf of General Malvar’s family and the General Malvar Centennial Committee we are extending our heartfelt gratitude for the declaration of September 27, as a special public holiday. Rest assured of our continued support for your victory.”

At the same time, the President wishes the people of Bicolandia success in the celebration of their annual Our Lady of Peñafrancia festival, as he reminds them that fiestas should not be taken as an excuse for lavish spending.

In a message released by Malacañang, the President states:

“While I would not begrudge you your enjoyment, I should want to remind you that fiestas should not be considered as an excuse for lavish spending; rather more they should serve to remind us of our individual responsibilities in the development of our country.”

Following is the full text of the President’s message:

I am pleased to extend my greetings to the good people of Bicolandia as they celebrate their biggest annual festival in honor of Our Lady of Peñafranca.

All over the country, fiestas are occasions for merry-making and feasting. While I would not begrudge you your enjoyment, I should want to remind you that fiestas should not be considered as an excuse for lavish spending; rather more than they should serve to remind us of our individual responsibilities in the development of our community. In the midst of your celebration, may I remind you that this Administration is engaged in the great task of nation-building in which everybody is expected to contribute his share, however small. The sacrifices demanded of everyone are enormous, I know, but the rewards will certainly come if we are willing to pay the price in terms of patience and greater dedication to our task today.

I hope that you, people of Bicolandia, will realize this and willingly contribute your share in the Administration's total effort to develop our country. I assure you that you will not regret your sacrifices, for hereafter you will have greater cause for rejoicing and more reason for thanksgiving on occasions such as this.

May you have a truly successful celebration.

Meanwhile, the President continues his tour of the province of Iloilo as he addresses a series of public rallies in the municipalities of Pototan and Passi among others.

With the President in his tour of the province are Sen. Gerardo M. Roxas, LP vice presidential bet; Sergio Osmeña, Ramon Diaz and Cesar Climaco, LP senatorial candidates; and former Sen. Roseller Lim.

*Source: National Library*

## President's Week in Review: September 19-25, 1965

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**September 19.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal debarks at Culasi point, Roxas City from aboard the RPS "21" after a nine-hour trip from Iloilo City in the course of a weeklong visit of Western Visayas.

Earlier, the President signed a proclamation earmarking 25,000 hectares of land in Capiz for subdivision to landless farmers. He likewise distributes land titles to 20 farmer families, as part of his "Land for the Masses" program. On his arrival at Culasi Point, the President is met by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, and by delegations from different towns of Capiz headed by Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal.

After acknowledging the cheers of well-wishers who lined a half-a-kilo-meter stretch of road, the First Couple proceeds to the resthouse of Speaker Villareal in Baybay where the President confers with local officials. From the Villareal residence, the President proceeds to the rally being held on Freedom Park. In his speech at the public rally, the President points out that the association of sons of former Presidents "with our cause shows clearly that in the Liberal leadership and endeavors today lies the hope of the nation."

The Chief Executive states: "That the sons of all Presidents who are associated with our cause finds explanation in the fact that what we are fighting for in our generation is a fulfillment of the common goal to which their fathers consecrated their efforts."

"President Aguinaldo set into motion on a national scale the Philippine revolution towards freedom in its fullness. President Quezon continued the political phase of Aguinaldo's revolution and initiated its economic and social phases by receiving social justice as the Filipino socio-economic way of life. "President Osmeña, Quezon's senior associate, wound up the political success of the Quezon-Osmeña-Roxas struggle under American rule. President Roxas picked up the economic phase of the Quezonian concept of social justice by erecting the economic and social foundations of the newborn Republic. "President Magsaysay picked up the social phase of the Quezonian concept of social justice by arousing the masses to consciousness of its boon to them and of their role in its attainment."

President Macapagal emphasizes that he is carrying on where both Presidents Roxas and President Magsaysay left off, by pushing through a five-year socio-economic program to attain a better and fuller life for the people^ which was the common dream of the "fathers of the country." Following the rally, the President motors to Capiz where he addresses a rally and then proceeds to Kalibo, Aklan passing via Altavas for another rally and then boards the presidential ship docked at New Washington for San Jose, Antique for the following day speaking engagements. At Kalibo, Aklan rally which lasted up to five a.m., the President administered the oath of office to Boneros Duran of Banga town as chairman of the Board of Marine Engineers.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal accepts the challenge hurled by his critics to place the performance of his four-year administration before the nation's voters as one of the main issues in the forthcoming polls.

In a speech read for him by Assistant Executive Secretary Ignacio Santos Diaz before the Consolidated Labor Party rally and convention held in San Pablo City, the President states: "I stand on my record. The President recalls that when he assumed office on December 30, 1961, he had made a pledge that he would at all times strive to be President not just of one class but of all classes not just of the rich but of the poor as well. "I have lived up to that pledge," he declares.

The Chief Executive then enumerates the measures taken under his administration to be doubly helpful to the poor who, he said, needed more help because they have "neither the resources nor the influence of the rich." Among those he enumerates are:

1. Enactment of the land reform law designed to make it possible for the poor tenants to break free of their centuries-old bondage and aspire to become landowners;

2. The raising of the floor wage from P4 to P6 a day which was enacted “despite the Opposition’s predictions of economic dislocation as a result of its passage”;
3. Launching of the “Land for the Masses” program to enable poor farmers to own the public lands which they had been working for years;
4. Construction of tenement houses to give destitute families an opportunity to live in more wholesome surroundings; and
5. Making available at cheap prices prime commodities such as rice, canned goods and clothing materials.

**September 20.**—LANDING in San Jose, Antique aboard the presidential ship on the penultimate day of the weeklong stump of the southern islands, President Macapagal is given a tumultuous welcome by the townsfolk of this province upon his arrival at the wharf. The President has been in Panay Island for three days now, visiting 14 Iloilo towns on his first leg, eleven more Iloilo towns on his second day, and Roxas City and Capiz, Kalibo and Altavas in Aklan on the third day. And as he ends his barnstorming tour of the island, the President predicts that he would win by a landslide in the whole Panay.

At the wharf the President addresses a rally where he pays tribute to the late President Roxas who, he said, was his “idol and inspiration for public office.” The chief Executive also bares that when Roxas was already a Speaker of the House and he (Macapagal) was still a student, Roxas used to send him handwritten notes to encourage him in his studies. The President drew tears from his listeners as he recounts the poverty of his youth and his “elation and honor for being chosen President to be able to better the life of the poor from whom I sprung.” Following the rally, the President boards the presidential ship for Calapan, Oriental Mindoro.

Meantime, President Macapagal stresses the importance of medicine-consciousness among the people “for they need to be strong and healthy if they wish to be able to contribute to the progress and prosperity of our country.” In a message on the occasion of the national celebration of Medicine Week, the President states:

“For a growing nation like ours it is important that our people become medicine-conscious, for they need to be strong and healthy if they wish to be able to contribute to the progress and prosperity of our country. Too long have our people been steeped in superstition and quackery. Even now we find many of our rural folks submitting themselves willingly to the ministrations of herbolarios. “It is about time we realize that in the fight against diseases, to rely on quackery is to gamble with our lives. Our country needs a strong and vigorous citizenry to run the wheels of its growing industries, and for this purpose we have to enlist the aid of medical science. But more than this we need all-out community cooperation and effort for better health, as reflected in this year’s celebration theme.

“I wish the PMA a most successful Medicine Week.”

**September 21.**— A BOARD the presidential ship RPS “21” en route to Calapan, Oriental Mindoro, President Macapagal announces the composition of the Philippine delegation to the 20th session of the United Nations general assembly with Foreign Secretary Mauro Mendez as chairman.

Others in the delegation are Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez as vice chairman; Senators Lorenzo Sumulong and Jose W. Diokno, and Ambassador Jose D. Ingles as representatives; and Ambassadors Tomas de Castro, Narciso G. Reyes, Privador G. Jimenez, Emilio D. Behasa and Delfin R. Garcia as alternate representatives. Ambassador Lopez is Philippine envoy to the U.N., Senator Sumulong is the chairman of the Senate Committee on foreign relations; Senator Diokno is chairman of the Senate committee on codes and constitutional amendments;

Ambassador Ingles is RP envoy to Bangkok, Ambassador De Castro to Buenos Aires, Ambassador Reyes to Jakarta, and Ambassador Besaja to Tel Aviv, while Ambassador Jimenez and Garcia are, respectively, RP deputy chiefs of missions to the U.N. and Tokyo. Arriving at 7 p.m. at Calapan, Mindoro on the last leg of a weeklong stumping tour that took him to Negros Occidental, Iloilo, Capiz, Aldan, Roxas City and Antique, the President vows that upon his

reelection, the government would buy rice at a minimum price of P18.50 per cavan and sell it at not more than P1.00 a ganta.

Meantime, the President instructs the Philippine "Veterans Administration thru Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño to expedite action on the backpay claim of an old woman. The old woman, Mrs. Sofia Dalay Asido of Paete, Laguna, had written a letter to the President appealing for help in securing death benefits due her as the direct heir of a veteran of the last war, Gregorio Dalay Asido.

In his Calapan speech, the President explains that one of the harmful consequences of the Senate obstructionism was the non-passage of a legislation that would provide for an integrated policy and program on rice and corn.

To remedy this, the President pledges that "upon our victory I shall press for a legislation whereby palay will be purchased by the government at a minimum price of P18.50 a cavan while the government will sell rice at not more than P1.00 per ganta." After the rally, the President distributes 20 land titles to farmers in the province and then boards the RPS "21" for his return trip to Manila.

**September 22.**— CITING SEATO as "the free world's best hope to deter communist aggression—to bring about progress in peace and freedom—and to promote understanding among countries in the Asian region," President Macapagal signs a proclamation declaring September 8 of every year as SEATO Day.

In this proclamation, the President notes that, "the strength of the alliance emanates from the confidence of the people in it and from their adherence to its objectives and the principles behind its creation." SEATO was born with the signing of the South-East Asia Collective Defense Treaty in Manila on Sept. 8, 1954. It was created as the Free World's answer to communist expansionist moves in Asia.

The members are Australia, France, Pakistan, the Philippines, New Zealand, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The Chief Executive also issues an executive order increasing the tariff rates of tinplates from 30 to 40 per cent in a move to strengthen further the competitive position of the local tinplate manufacturing industry in the domestic market.

The directive decrees the modification of import duty rates on electrolytic tinplates from its original 30 per cent to 40 per cent, thereby raising the protective wall for the local industry.

The President issues the order after reviewing the recommendations of the National Economic Council and the Tariff Commission to extend government assistance to the local tinplate industry.

The President's decision in raising the tariff rates of tinplates is designed to reduce importation of tinplates to allow the local industry to operate beyond its break-even point and capture as much of the Philippine market as possible. The country is now importing only 20 per cent of domestic demand, with 80 per cent already produced locally.

At the same time, the President takes the occasion to appeal to Filipino consumers to patronize local industries so as to promote capital formation and increase job opportunities for the country.

He stresses the administration's economic philosophy that "Filipinos are the principal determinants in the development of the economy as well as the recipients of the benefits of economic and social progress."

The President returns to Manila from a nine-day tour of the Western Visayan provinces and cities.

After a brief rest, the President seeks the seclusion of his study where he works the whole day on official papers.



In the afternoon, the President receives some members of Congress and some provincial and municipal officials who took up local matters with him.

In the evening, the President motors to the Manila Overseas Press Club (MOPC) on Roxas Boulevard where he is the guest of honor and speaker at the traditional "President's Night" dinner.

In an off-the-cuff address, the President stresses that the Philippines would continue to seek closer relations and understanding with other Afro-Asian countries in line with her policy of expanding her international relations

The Chief Executive, however, explains that this would not mean a diminution in the close historical ties which the Philippines has with Western countries like Spain and the United States.

The President pinpoints graft and corruption, economic development and international relations as the three most important problems with which the Philippines, like other growing and underdeveloped nations is coping.

Stressing that in the discharge of his responsibility, he was making an effort to solve not only transient problems but the problems of the future, the President states that he was gratified that in four years, the country has made a fundamental start to solve its long-standing problems.

"Of one thing we are proud of—we have approached our problems along the basic path of freedom and thereby showed our fitness for discharging the responsibility of freedom," he adds. "We seek not only rice but rice and freedom as well.

"It is a difficult job—the task of solving our long standing problems— but after four years, I know it can be done with the support of our people."

He calls for an attitude of trying to solve "rather than deplore our problems and difficulties."

On the problem of graft and corruption, the President underscores the need for leaders who will set the moral tone and example for integrity and states that this must be a criterion not only for those in leadership but more so for those who seek leadership.

He points out he was satisfied that headway has been attained in the administration's effort to eliminate graft and corruption especially in the upper echelons of the government but adds that much remains to be done in the lower levels.

Mr. Macapagal warns that in solving this problem there must be that attitude of selflessness on the part of a nation's leader.

On the problem of poverty which is common to young nations just emerging from colonial rule, the President remarks that he was satisfied that by fighting for land reform, he has set the basis for future growth because without it, all efforts at economic progress will be futile.

He notes that the land reform program has lagged behind because of lack of revenue measures, but that the fact is that it has been started and is now being implemented.

In the field of international relations, the President affirms that in fostering closer understanding with Asian neighbors, the Administration has taken two steps, namely: 1) a change of date in the nation's Independence Day celebration which gained prestige for his country in the eyes of our Asian neighbors; and 2) venturing into relationships with her Asian neighbors.

The President observes that some sister Asian nations had misunderstood the Philippines "happy" relationship with the United States in suite of its being a former colonizer. He notes that the change of the Philippine's Independence

Day observance was well received by its Asian brothers. In line with the administration's policy of expanding relations with other Asian countries, the President says that this country has forged and continues to pursue closer relations with Japan, Nationalist China, Indonesia Malaysia, South Vietnam, India and Pakistan. In the case of Japan, the President expresses appreciation over the sympathetic attitude of the Japanese Government in making good its reparations commitments which he said, have contributed immensely to the rehabilitation and development of this country.

He avers the Chinese and Filipino peoples have maintained friendly relations rooted in centuries. In the case of Indonesia and Malaysia, the President recalls his efforts to mediate the dispute between the two countries in spite of the Philippines' friendly claim to Sabah. However, he states, he desisted when Indonesian troops landed on the mainland of Malaysia and is now in no position to further take the initiative.

Vis-a-vis Vietnam, the Chief Executive bares the Philippines is doing her part to sustain the cause of freedom by extending all possible assistance to that country.

On the India-Pakistan dispute, the President reveals that the Philippines is still collecting facts and until such time she will support the efforts of the United Nations in settling the dispute. He expresses the hope that the two countries would settle the problems among themselves in a peaceful manner before the situation gets out of hand. The Philippine participation in the Cairo conference, Mr. Macapagal concludes, was a reflection of the country's efforts to expand her relations with other Afro-Asian nations.

**September 23.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal designates the Leyte Filipiniana Dance Troupe as the official cultural representative of the Philippines abroad. As such, the dance troupe will be entitled to financial aid authorized by Republic Act No. 3042 setting aside appropriations "for aid to any Filipino cultural group engaged in the study and in the dissemination of Filipino folk arts, music and dances, etc." The designation is subject to the following conditions:

(1) Such aid shall be given only if the cultural "group has an existing contract with a reputable impresario who has previously arranged for the performance or exhibition abroad of the cultural group, and that said impresario has guaranteed, among other things, to defray all inland travel and living and incidental expenses of the members of the group while abroad; and

(2) Such aid shall be limited only to the necessary transportation expenses of the members thereof and to the Philippines arid overseas transportation expenses from one continent to another as may be necessary to fulfill contracts. The Leyte Filipiniana Dance Troupe was scheduled to perform in different U.S. bases and states in the U.S. mainland.

In the morning, the President motors to the Manila Hotel where he is guest of honor and speaker at the opening of the three-day second national convention of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Employees Association. In an extemporaneous remark, the President underscores that agricultural and industrial development efforts must complement each other if the fight for a better life is to be attained.

Mr. Macapagal explains that aside from providing the basic food of the people, agriculture should also produce the raw materials needed in industries. On the other hand, the President said that industrialization will depend on those engaged in agriculture to buy industrial products. This, he states, was shown in industrialized countries like the United States where farmers are prosperous enough to buy industrial products like television sets, radios, cars, etc.

It is in meeting this problem of agricultural and industrial interdependence that the administration has devoted itself, in line with its policy of increased production as in the case of the land reform program, he states.

The President points out that the income of farmers could only be raised to enable them to appreciate the products of industrialization by giving them encouragement and hope. Mr. Macapagal deplores the fact that even while the Philippines is still at an agricultural stage, it has never produced enough supply of even the people's staple food of

rice and corn. Lack of encouragement has resulted in farmers not availing of advanced agricultural know-how, he says.

But then, the President continues, the initial results of the land reform program and the technical assistance being extended by the Agricultural Department have given hope for national progress through agricultural and industrial development; In the afternoon, the President receives Ambassador Mohamad Sulaiman Sait of India and also Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, who arrived recently from Israel where he headed the Philippine delegation to the International Supreme Audit Conference participated in by 62 countries. The President spends the whole night up to past midnight in the seclusion of his study working on state papers.

**September 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring Saturday (Sept. 25), a special public holiday in Albay province.

The President issues the proclamation in order to give the people of Albay an opportunity to celebrate fittingly the 62nd anniversary of the surrender of General Simeon Ola to the American forces.

Gen. Ola was one of the last Filipino generals to lay down their arms during the Filipino-American War. The Chief Executive motors to Nueva Ecija where he is scheduled to address rallies in three towns and at the same time visit barrio settlement projects in Laur where Bishop Eraño Manalo of the “Iglesia ni Kristo” has a settlement for INK followers. Arriving in barrio Maligaya in Laur, Nueva Ecija, the President inspects the Iglesia’s community development project. The Maligaya farm of 543 hectares was opened last February 22 to resettle 145 Iglesia families who left their jobs at the Hacienda Luisita in Tarlac because their religion forbids them to join labor unions. In his remarks, the President states that his “fight poverty” campaign was a forward step in the attainment of economic freedom for all the farmers in the country.

Following the inspection of the settlement, the President motors to the towns of Aliaga, Sta. Rosa, Zaragoza, and Jaen where he addresses rallies.

**September 25.**—RETURNING to Manila from Nueva Ecija, President Macapagal motors to Batangas for a two-day stump.

The President issues two proclamations designed to hasten the economic development of Davao City under the Mindanao Authority and a third declaring Tuesday (Sept. 28) a special public holiday in the province of Camarines Norte. Sept. 28 marks the birth anniversary of the late Wenceslao Q. Vinzons, former Governor and Representative of the province and one of the outstanding heroes of the last war. In his first proclamation, the President reserves four parcels of land, totalling 90,827 square meters, for the use of the Philippine Navy at Sasa, Davao City.

In the second proclamation, the President transfers the ownership to the Mindanao Development Authority of eight parcels of land with a total area of 238,585 square meters, in Davao. Issuance of the two proclamations was recommended by the Program Implementation Agency in order to speed up development of Davao City as an industrial park, bulk handling terminal and site of a Philippine naval station. The PIA recommendation which was received by the President and his Cabinet last May 14, was promptly approved, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Revocation and/or transfer of the lease of the Compania Maritima to a parcel of land thereat;
- (2) Relocation of the Pagamikan Elementary School;
- (3) Relocation of the squatters thereat;
- (4) Resolution of existing claims to certain portions of the land, like the Mindanao Equipment Depot of the Bureau of Public Highways and Vedasto Corcuera. The President also orders Acting Executive Secretary Mariño:

1. To look into the case of a Manila city fiscal who was caught by the NBI agents in the act receiving bribe money in return for the dropping of a rape case. The Manila city fiscal was denounced to the NBI by a defendant in a rape case affecting a former housemaid. The defendant alleged in a sworn statement that the fiscal demanded P2,000 in consideration of the dropping of the case. Subsequently, the defendant raised P150.00 which was used as bait by the NBI in nabbing the husband of the city fiscal, who acted as contact man. In his order to Mariño, the President observes that fiscals, being the prosecuting arm of the government^ should set the example in honesty and integrity.

2. To inquire into a report that band of heavily armed pirates sacked the town of Boljoon in Cebu.

Secretary Mariño requested the defense department to alert the constabulary and naval forces against pirate depredations. Secretary Mariño said the President had expressed alarm over the boldness of pirates in raiding towns, demobilizing entire police forces, and nonchalantly running away with booty.

According to the report in Boljoon, 15 heavily armed pirates demobilized the town's police force, robbed its inhabitants of some P60,000 and fired indiscriminately at the houses.

The President arrives in Balayan, Batangas at 1:30 p.m. on the first-leg of a two-day stump of the province. He addresses earlier a rally in Nasugbu where he also distributes land titles, and in Tuy where he directs the release of P50,000 for the town's market. In his speech, the President predicts here that the Macapagal-Roxas team, together with "at least six of the Liberal Party senatorial bets" will emerge victorious in November. Mr. Macapagal base his predictions on what he called "the growing realization of the Filipino people" that the Administration is trying to do its best for the country.

The President informs the people at the rally that "as you were among those responsible for my election in 1961, I am happy to report to you that after my renewed sorties in scattered provinces and on the basis of my developed acumen for accurate political observation, I am going to win together with Senator Roxas as vice president with an impressive majority."

He confidently reports that "all over the land the universal observation of significant sectors of the people is 'panalo na si Macapagal.' "

Following the Balayan rally, the President inaugurates a Philippine National Bank branch office. Then he proceeds to Batangas, Batangas and Ibaan where he addresses night rallies which last until the early hours of the morning.

*Source: National Library*

## President's Week in Review: September 26 - October 2, 1965

### OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

**September 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal winds up his two-day stump of Batangas predicting in Lipa City that the province would vote straight Liberal in the coining polls.

The President recalls that although most of the elective official Batangas are Nacionalistas, he had won over former President Garcia the province in the 1961 elections.

The Chief Executive hears Sunday mass in the morning celebrated at an open ground in the premises of a private residence at Barrio Tulay, Ibaan, Batangas where he had rested a few hours: after addressing another rally held in Batangas, Batangas which lasted until dawn.

After partaking of a light breakfast the President addresses number of municipal delegations which had converged at Barrio Tulay in Ibaan, Batangas to see him.

From Ibaan, the President starts off the final phase of his two-day sortie of Batangas towns by motoring to Taysan where he addresses a mammoth rally.

The President likewise addresses public rallies in Rosario, Sto. Tomas and then Lipa City, with whistle stops in a number of outlying communities.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal pays tribute to Gen. Miguel Malvar not only because of his fight for freedom which had distinguished him as the last Filipino revolution general to surrender to the American. Forces in 1902 but also because of his love for the poor among his countrymen.

In a speech read for him by Assistant Executive Secretary Teodoro de Vera at rites held at the Luneta on the eve of the centenary celebration of the birth of Gen. Malvar, the President recalls the last words of the hero to his children when he died in 1911: "You should respect and love those who have, but you should respect and love more, even-much more, those who are poor.

The Chief Executive points out: "Behind these simple words is the legacy which we, who are privileged to lead you today, are striving to nurture and protect."

The President recalls that Malvar took up arms for freedom and did not hesitate to risk his life for that freedom.

"But, as he fought against the enemy, he never once forgot that freedom is hollow and meaningless if it is confined to the political sphere, if it is not extended to the economic field," he states.

"What good, indeed, is political freedom if the rich trample on the poor, if the tenants and the workers remain chained to economic bondage?" he asks.

The President adds: "Let us render homage to his' (Malvar's) unselfish fight for freedom, but let us remember also that underlying that fight was another great fight, his fight against the grinding poverty that gripped his countrymen."

Pointing out that the Administration is committed to the conquest of poverty, the President concludes: "After we emerge victorious from that fight, we can be assured that Gen. Malvar will rest easier in his hallowed grave, knowing that another battle he had fought has been won by those who came after him.

The President calls also on war veterans in the government service to help propel “our fledging nation from the cocoon of backwardness to the sunlight of prosperity and progress.”

In a speech read for him by Assistant Executive Secretary Ignacio Santos Diaz before the second national convention of the Government Employees’ World War Veterans League at the GSIS auditorium, the President states:

“It becomes clear to all of us that we survived the nightmare of the Japanese occupation because we had our work cut out for us. We were chosen to carry on what our dead comrades sacrificed their lives to accomplish: to keep our country and people free, and insure for them all a peaceful, fruitful and rewarding, life.

The President tells the veterans that no task is more exalted than the government service because it offers numberless opportunities for direct assistance to the people and for tangible achievement in nation-building.

He says that the veterans who went through the test of fire and sword are the very men the government needs to make the dream of good government a beautiful reality.

**September 27.**—ON the eve of his 55<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary, President Macapagal receives massive reaffirmation of faith in his leadership from various groups led by thousands of Lakambini ’65 members who filled the Malacañang grounds to serenade him.

In thanking some 80,000 members of the Lakambini for their show of unity and faith in him,” the President pledges to carry on the Administration’s policy of increasing women’s role in public affairs by opening to them more responsible positions in the government.

“This show of unity by our women,” the President points out, “has made this birthday the happiest in my life, indicative as it is of a landslide victory for the Liberal Party in the coming elections.”

“As the first non-political President of the Republic of the Philippines, the next four years will be unparalleled in public service and upliftment of the life of our people,” he declares.

He assures that the Administration will implement more vigorously its land for the landless program, the policy of free enterprise and that he would press for a rice and corn subsidy bill to help the nation’s farmers and so that “Lakambinis can buy rice at P1 a ganta.”

“I will endeavor, to the best of my ability and with the cooperation of the Lakambinis, to be the best President that our people could wish for and to give the country the best administration,” the President concludes.

In the morning, the President is presented by the Enlisted Personnel Association of the Philippines the Outstanding Service Award.

In presenting the award, the association, cites the President for:

- 1) His great service and; dedication, rare integrity, courage and statesmanship, infinite diligence, sincerity of purpose and exemplary stewardship in the service of his beloved country and the Filipino people; and
- 2) His soundness of wisdom and the merits of his superb policies which have given the government the desired impetus, dynamism and efficiency.

The award is also given as a memento in grateful acknowledgement of and humble expression of “our profound gratitude on behalf of all the enlisted-personnel of the, armed forces and their dependents throughout the country for giving earnest and sustained support to our cause.”

It was pointed out that the President proved his deep concern for enlistment in the enactment of E.A. 3725 increasing their longevity pay and that the Award would serve as a modest token of their affection, highest esteem and admiration and unflinching loyalty to their commander-in-chief.

In accepting the award, the President expresses gratefulness over their manifestation of faith in him. and in what he had been doing for their welfare,

In the afternoon, the President-receives -officials -of the Consolidated Labor Party (CLP) and the Philippine Labor Unity Movement (PLUM) led by Vicente Rafael, president, who likewise felicitates him and assures him of their support of his reelection bid.

In between receiving well-wishers, the President administers the oath of office to former Rep. Mateo Pecson and Jesus C. Razon as part-time governor of the Development Bank of the Philippines and acting chairman of the board of directors of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation, respectively.

In the evening, the President receives from Speaker Cornelio Villareal a most welcome gift—the findings of a poll survey which gives the Chief Executive a lead of 585,915 over his next rival.

The Speaker informs the President that he himself had carefully checked the findings which were gathered from all over the country with the exception of Manila which was not included in the survey because of “its susceptibility to eleventh-hour atmosphere.”

Meantime, President Macapagal expresses in a message the hope he might live to see in his lifetime “a Philippines happy and prosperous in an atmosphere of freedom.

In his message issued on the eve of his 55th birthday, the – Chief Executive offers his thanks to the Almighty Father “for the gifts which He has so generously bestowed upon me,” namely:

“1. For the spirit which made me see ‘poverty not as a shackle but a spur to achievement;

“2. For the passion for learning and truth and justice;

“3. For friends who are true and a family that is loving;

“4. For: a good health, a clean conscience, unstained hands; and most of all—

“5. For the privilege and opportunity of leading these past three years and ten months, the people I love with every fibre of my being.” –

“Indeed, If I have any one regret in life, it is that after struggling against so many great odds to win the position in which I could be of greatest help to the greatest number of our people, I found when I did win that position, that a small but powerful group of our countrymen had maneuvered to render the position ineffective in translating our programs to lift our people from the mire of poverty.”

He continues: “It is because of this then that I am’ moved on this, my birthday, to include in my prayer an appeal to Almighty God and our sovereign people for assistance in. combatting the insidious attempts of this small group to frustrate our dreams for our people,”

“I pray that He shall continue to steel my heart against the malevolence of this group and that I might live to see in my lifetime the vision I share with Quezon and Roxas, with Osmeña and Magsaysay—a Philippines happy and prosperous in an atmosphere of freedom,” President Macapagal concludes.

**September 28.**—WITH Taal Volcano suddenly waking up after 34 years of deep slumber and blowing up with devastating fury in a pre-dawn darkness, causing awe-some destruction for miles around— virtually rocking the entire country and spurring one of the most massive evacuations seen here since the war—President Macapagal mobilizes all government agencies to extend the fullest assistance to evacuees fleeing from areas threatened by the eruption of Taal volcano in Batangas.

The Taal Volcano is described as the world's lowest volcano and as the world's only lake within an island within a lake within an island. The volcano, whose crater is a lake itself, is a 12-square-mile island in the middle of Taal Lake—a 200-square-mile body of water in the heart of Batangas province—which is in Luzon island.

In its centuries-long history, the volcano island has had 18 recorded eruptions of which the one in 1716 is considered the most destructive. And in its Jan; 30, 1911 eruption, Taal destroyed 90 square miles of the surrounding land, and claimed a recorded 1,335 lives.

In series of directives issued after his on-the-spot survey of the area made a few hours after the eruption, the President:

1. Orders the release of P500, 000 from the calamity fund for relief operations, of which P200, 000 is earmarked for the Social Welfare Administration; P200, 000 for the Philippine National Red Cross; and P50, 000 for the, Armed Forces of the Philippines; and
2. Directs the initial release of P3.000 to Mayor Pedro Gonzalez of Tanauan, where some P2, 000 evacuees from the disaster area are temporarily housed.

In a public gymnasium at Tanauan where he talked; to the. evacuees, the President gives assurance that the government will do all it can “to help them out.

Before leaving for the town of Talisay, along the shores of Taal Lake, the President orders Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño to call the Presidential Committee on Relief and Rehabilitation to a meeting at the Palace to discuss relief and rescue measures for the people threatened by the eruption.

The committee takes the following steps:

- 1) Designates the towns of Talisay and San Nicolas as debarkation points for residents fleeing the volcano island by banca;
- 2) Names the towns of Taal, Tanauan, Talisay, Agoncillo, Lemery, Alitagtag, Lipa, Bauan, Cuenca, Sta. Teresita and Mataas na Kahoy—all in Batangas as sites of evacuation camps;
- 3) Assign 40 AFP trucks for evacuation. purposes;
- 4) Designates San Pablo City and Quezon province as alternate evacuation areas in cases the situation gets worse;
- 5) Assigns the following agencies to assume responsibility: for the various task:
  - a. Transportation—AFP, Philippine Navy and PACD;
  - b. Sanitation—Department of Health, Social Welfare Administration and Philippine National Red Cross
  - c. Security—PC and local police forces
  - d. Food—NAMARCQ, SWA, RCA, and PNRC



e. Shelter—Department of Education and Department of Public Works.

From Batangas, the President. proceeds direct to Fort Aguinaldo for a testimonial parade and review held on the occasion of his 55th birthday by the AFP.

Arriving at 11 a.m.—an hour behind schedule due to his unexpected trip to Taal, the President during the program signs two proclamations, each setting aside 245 hectares of land from the Fort Aguinaldo reservation for distribution to landless AFP officers and enlisted men as AFP's share in the Administration's land-for-the-landless program.

Following the AFP affair, the President motors to Bicutan, Taguig, Rizal where he distributes 80 land patents to 80 landless tenants in the barrio and in several parts of Manila.

Back in Malacañag at 2:30 p.m., the President and the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, together with their children, receive well-wishers that included members of the diplomatic corps, government officials and employees, as well as people from all walks of life.

In the evening, the President and the First Lady motors to Vitas, Tondo where they inaugurate the government's multi-storey housing project, which was also a feature of his birthday celebration.

The President hands the award certificates of occupancy to the dwelling units to a representative 20 heads of families. He also hands them symbolic keys to the units, as well as token household utensils. While the First Lady cuts the ceremonial ribbon that officially opened the 262-unit seven-storey tenement building on Vitas, Tondo for occupancy.

Presidential Assistant on Housing Pete S. de Jesus, concurrently chairman of the-PHHC board, and acting-Gen. Manager Jose T. Villanea assists the President in the awarding of the dwelling units.

The Vitas multi-storey tenement building is one of four such buildings built in the metropolitan area to house low-income families. The three others are at the NDC compound on Pureza, Sta. Mesa; Punta, Sta. Ana, and at Fort Bonifacio. The families awarded units in the tenement buildings will pay as low as from P6 to P19 a month as rental.

The tenement buildings are constructed from a P15-million outlay authorized by Congress as recommended by President Macapagal.

The President, in his remarks at the inauguration of the Vitas tenement building, emphasizes that he is determined to build as many such tenement houses as are necessary in order to make available to the poor decent dwelling units at a cost they could afford.

Following the inauguration rites, the President proceeds to Malacañang Park where he receives guests at an "Open House" reception.

**September 29.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal flies to Lipa City for another on-the-spot survey of the extent of the damage wrought to surrounding areas by the recent eruption of Taal volcano.

The Chief Executive, the other day, motored to some barrios on the shores of Taal Lake—a few hours after the first eruption—to get first-hand information on the situation in the towns near the volcano And to supervise relief operations.

At 8:40 a.m., the First Couple, aboard the presidential Fokker plane "Common Man," had a view of the volcano as it spewed black smoke and sulphuric gas and of the extent of the damage in the effected areas.

The First Couple lands at Fernando Air Base at 9:05 a.m. Then they motor to the municipality of Taal where some 3,000 eruption victims- are temporarily housed.

After looking into the progress of relief operations and the evacuation of people from the affected areas, the President and the First Lady reboard the presidential plane at 10:30 a.m. and flew to Pangasinan for a three-day visit to the province.

Landing at Lingayen airport at noon, the President is Met by an enthusiastic crowd which extend, to him belated birthday greetings.

From the airport, the President proceeds to Rosales, where he addresses the first rally of the day. Then, he motors to San Nicolas, with 6 whistlestop at Sta. Maria.

The President also addresses rallies in Tayug, Natividad, Sen Quentin, Umingan, Balungao, Urdaneta, Alcala, Sto. Tomas, Villasis, Asingan and Lingayen.

Following the last rally for the day at Lingayen, the President rests overnight at the “Princess Urduja,” official residence of Gov, Francisco Duque.

**September 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, instructs acting Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño to authorize the payment of the government share in the retirement and insurance premiums of government employees whose regular appointments have been changed to provisional.

Pursuant to the President’s instructions, Secretary Mariño issues memorandum Circular No. 143 authorizing such payment.

The Malacañang action benefits government employees whose status as a result of the implementation of Republic Act No. 2260, otherwise known as the Civil Service Act of 1959; had been changed from regular or permanent to provisional.

With the implementation of the Civil Service Act, the membership, of such employees in the Government Service Insurance System- automatic ally ceases to-be compulsory, and they must shoulder the entire premiums on their policies.

Following is the full text of the Malacañang memorandum circular:

**AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT SHARE ON THE RETIREMENT AND INSURANCE PREMIUMS OF EMPLOYEES WHOSE REGULAR APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO PROVISIONAL.**

It has been brought to the attention of this Office that as a result of the implementation of Republic Act No. 2260, otherwise known as the Civil Service Act of 1959, and the rules and regulations governing the position classification and salary plans, the status of appointments of certain employees in the government has been changed from regular and permanent to provisional. Consequently, their membership in the Government Service Insurance System has automatically ceased to be compulsory in accordance with the provisions of Section 4 (b) of Commonwealth Act No. 186; as amended, and they should now shoulder the entire premiums on their policies.

In line with the provisions of Section 4 (b) of the aforementioned Act which provides that the employer “is hereby empowered to pay for its share on the insurance of those employees,” the payment of the government share on the retirement and insurance premiums of the said employees is hereby authorized. In case a permanent and regular employee accepts either a provisional or temporary appointment the basis of the computation of the government share shall be his salary as such provisional or temporary employee. However, when the appointment is, merely in a substitute capacity, wherein the employee concerned; will return to his former position upon the return of the incumbent who went on leave: without pay, the basis of the government share should be the last salary received by him as regular and permanent employee.

The Chief Executive, now on the second of his three-day tour of Pangasinan towns, addresses rallies in Mangaldan, San Fabian, San Jacinto, Pozorrubio, Sta. Barbara,, Calasiao, Dagupan City, San Carlos, Malasiqui, Bayambang, Bautista and Manaoag.

In Binalonan, the President declares that one of the issues in this coming election is whether the country shall remain under a system, of free enterprise or return to controls. He says he is for the continuation of the free enterprise system.

Following the rally at Bautista, the President returns, to Lingayen where he rests overnight at the official residence of the governor.

**October 1.**—IN Lingayen, Pangasinan—President Macapagal proclaims the existence of a state of public calamity in Lipa and Tagaytay cities and eight towns of Batangas affected by the eruption of the Taal volcano.

Towns covered by the presidential proclamation are Talisay, San Nicolas, Agoncillo, Taal, Tanauan, Lemery, Mataas na Kahoy, and Cuenca.

In his proclamation, the President observes that the eruption has wrought havoc and suffering among the inhabitants of these towns and cities and noted the excessive increase in the prices of prime commodities due to profiteering and hoarding which, he said, threaten the people of these areas with famine and untold hardships.

He says it is imperative that immediate steps be taken to cope effectively with the emergency so as to avert panic and disorder among the people in the affected localities.

Under the proclamation, it shall be unlawful to sell or offer for sale palay, rice, corn, cloth, mi&V canned goods, sugar and other foodstuffs, building and construction materials and other prime necessities at prices higher by 25 per cent or more, above the average current local price of such commodities one month prior to the eruption.

The proclamation also declares it unlawful to aggravate the crisis by refusing, for the purpose of profiteering, to sell at the legal price, or by hiding, concealing or hoarding the goods for the same purpose.

The Chief Executive empowers the Director of Commerce to determine the prevailing prices of prime commodities one month prior to the calamity and to carry the proclamation into effect.

The commerce director is likewise authorized to call upon such government entities and instrumentalities as may be needed to give the necessary cooperation and assistance for the successful prosecution of the proclamation.

At the same time, the President receives assurances from I. H. Markuson of UNICEF that all drugs and diet supplements which the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) has been supplying the Philippines for the past 20 years have been placed at the disposal of the government for the relief of Taal victims.

From Lingayen, the President proceeds to Mangatarem where he addresses a rally and distributes land titles.

After the land distribution at Mangatarem, the President addresses other rallies in Aguilar, Bugallon, Labrador, Sual, Alaminos, Mabini, Burgos, Agno, Bani and Bolinao.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal leads the nation in paying tribute to the late Senator Claro M. Recto, saying that "perhaps no other man in contemporary Philippine history incarnated the spirit of true nationalism as much as Don Claro did in his lifetime."

In a message issued on the eve of the 5th anniversary of the death of the Senator, the President declares that the most outstanding virtue of Recto was his courage to speak out his own mind at the risk of losing popular support.

In a traditionally conformist society, he was a non-conformist—a dissenter whenever he believed that the welfare of his countrymen is involved,” the President states.

Adding that the true measure of Recto’s greatness as a Filipino was the universality of his mind, the President points out that Filipinos whom he had made conscious and proud of their being Filipinos “can do no less than try to measure up to his olympian stature and emulate his nationalistic endeavors.”

**October 2.**—EN ROUTE to Ilocos Norte aboard; the presidential Fokker plane “Common Man” for a reunion of the Macaraeg family in Bacarra, President Macapagal orders Fisheries Commissioner Arsenio Roldan, Jr. to undertake immediate studies of the Waters of Taal lake and to stock the lake with as many fish fingerlings as possible.

The President, in his directive, orders Roldan to determine losses to people within the affected areas of the Taal volcano eruption who are dependent of fishing in the lake and to distribute fishing gears and equipment in order to “bring them back on their feet as soon as possible.”

The Chief Executive also asks the Fisheries Commission to distribute more fish to the victims. The commission has already started distributing fish to the evacuees.

Upon his arrival at the Laoag airport, the President proceeds direct to the town’s cathedral where a *Te Deum* is sung in his honor.

From the cathedral, he addresses a public rally where he pledges full assistance in the Laoag officials’ efforts to put up a good municipal market by endorsing their application with the GSIS for an P840,000-loan needed for the project.

Following the Macaraeg reunion, the President proceeds to Sarrat, where a brief rally was held.

Then the President flies back to Manila in the evening.

*Source:* **National Library**

## **President's Week in Review: October 3-9, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**October 3.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal goes to Batangas for the third time to personally look into the progress of relief operations being conducted by government agencies, for victims of the Taal volcano eruption.

Arriving by plane at Fernando Air Base, Lipa City, the President is briefed by Undersecretary of National Defense Emerito de Jesus and Task Force Vulcan commander, Col. Segundo Gazmin, on the progress of the relief and recovery operations. From Lipa City, the President motors direct to San Nicolas and then takes a small banca for Agoncillo where he tells eruption victims that the government is looking around for suitable public lands in Batangas where they could be relocated.

“You should not be staying in this place of uncertainty where, your lives are in constant danger because of the unpredictability of the volcano,” the President warns the Taal victims who had paused from the grim task of recovering whatever remained of their earthly belongings buried under tons of drying lava. “You should settle in, a place where you and your families would be more safe.”

After visiting barrio Subic and Bilibinuan, the President motors back to Fernando Air Base for the trip back to Manila aboard a PAF C-47 plane.

Arriving at Malacañang at 2:45 p.m., the President, directs Acting Executive Secretary Salvador L. Marino, who is also chairman of the Presidential Committee on Relief and Rehabilitation (PCRR), to convene the committee at the Fernando Air Base at 11 a.m. the following day to discuss relief and other problems arising from the eruption.

The Chief Executive specially wants the committee, in coordination with local officials, of Batangas and representatives of private organizations participating in the relief operations, to like up the following:

1. Relocation of families who were forced to leave the Taal volcano island as a result of the eruption;
2. Coordination of relief operations in the light of the finding that although there are enough relief goods available, there seem to be no coordination in their distribution; and
3. Proper implementation of the President's proclamation of a state of calamity in those areas of Batangas hard hit by the eruption.

The President issues the directive after making his third visit to Batangas since the Taal volcano eruption. In the wake of the President's visits, the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, has scheduled a two-day visit to the evacuation centers in Batangas. The President's son Arturo, has also been making his own visits to the effected areas to assist in the relief work.

Earlier in the morning, the President receives assurances from Muslim leaders of the South of their full and united support for his reelection. The Muslim leaders are Sultan Ismael Kiram and Jamulul Abirin and Princess Tarhata Kiram of Sulu who called on the President.

In the afternoon, the President addresses a rally staged at the Malacañang grounds by the Democratic Party which proclaimed him as its official candidate for President.

**October 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues an executive order creating the Labor Code Committee to study, examine and harmonize all labor laws, policies and, regulations, and submit recommendations for the amendment, revision and codification of labor and social legislation in the country.

With the presiding judge of the Court of Industrial Relations as chairman, the committee is composed of: Vicente A. Rafael, president and general counsel of the Philippine Labor Unity Movement; the labor director of the National Apprenticeship Council; the labor representative in the Labor-Management; the executive judge of the Court of Agrarian Relations; and a representative each from the Department of Justice and Department of Labor.

In issuing the order, the President underscores the long-felt need for coordinating, improving and harmonizing labor laws, and judicial precedents, administrative policies and regulations through a progressive all-encompassing Labor Code guided by the constitutional mandate for the promotion of social justice and protection of labor.

The Chief Executive, in his executive order, takes cognizance of the urgent need for a systematic and realistic adjustment of existing policies and procedure affecting government agencies, labor unions, work standards, employment regulations, and others, and the enactment of remedial legislations.

The committee is authorized to call on any bureau, office, department or instrumentality of the government for assistance and personnel, and directed to submit its report and recommendations before the opening of the regular session of Congress.

The President also declares the “Casa Real” at Malolos, Bulacan a national shrine.

In another executive order, the President notes that the 400-year-old “Casa Real” in Paseo del Congreso, Plaza Rizal, Malolos, Bulacan, housed the first printing press of the First Philippine Republic which published the revolutionary organs, *Kalayaan* and *Independence*. It was also the seat of government of the town of Malolos during the early American regime.

He likewise points out that “this cultural heritage of our nation’s past should be preserved for posterity.” He assigns its care to the National Museum.

In the morning, the President motors to Nichols Air Base where he boards the presidential Fokker plane “Common Man” for General Santos, Cotabato.

The President lands at Gen. Santos, before noon and immediately runs smack into about the most enthusiastic welcome he has yet received during his campaign trips. Thousands milled about the President as he negotiated the distance from the plane to his car. It took him more than 30 minutes to get to the vehicle.

In the rally which followed his arrival, the President gives strong assurance that upon his reelection, projects now under study by the Mindanao Development Authority would be given top priority in implementation.

“I say this,” the President says, “not as an election promise, but in the conviction that the development of the tremendous resources in your province; which is the largest, in the country, is the key to our self-sufficiency as a nation.”

He explains that if properly developed, Cotabato’s vast plains could grow enough rice to feed the entire country while its rich fishing grounds could supply the nation with vitally-needed proteins.

The President announces that the MDA is finalizing blueprints for a road system in the province which is designed to facilitate movement of produce, an irrigation network, the drainage of the vast Liguasan marsh and the establishment of a number of ports.

Following the rally, the President motors to Palomoloc where he spoke briefly, and then to Tupi, Tampakan, Marbel, Banga and Surala.

**October 5.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal extends the period of the 1965 national fund and educational campaign of the Philippine Tuberculosis Society, Inc. to December 31 this year.

The Chief Executive also reprimands a municipal judge of Cotabato for undue delay in the disposition of a case assigned to him.

Chided and warned by the President on recommendation of the Secretary of Justice is Municipal Judge Felipe T. Eleosida of Kidapawan. Eleosida is charged by one Nemesio Loma of grave abuse of discretion, grave misconduct in office, highhandedness, partiality, ignorance of the law and incompetence in relation to a civil case.

The District Judge who investigated the complaint found that while there was no sufficient basis to find respondent judge guilty of the charges of abuse of authority, partiality and incompetence, the latter was guilty of undue delay in acting on the case.

In reprimanding the judge, the President served him a warning that repetition of the same or similar acts tending to unduly delay the administration of justice will be dealt with more severely.

From Marbel, where he stayed overnight, the President motors for Norala, the first of ten towns he is visiting during the day.

En route to Norala, the President directs Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, to release to the Social Welfare Administration an additional amount of P300,00 from the calamity fund for victims of the Taal volcano eruption. The President issues the directive in a wire dispatched to Manila.

The Chief Executive had made three visits to the disaster area converging the lakeshore towns of Batangas since its pre-dawn eruption last Sept. 28.

His first visit was on his birthday Sept. 28, a few hours after the eruption; the second was on Sept. 29 when he and the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, enplaned to the area; and the third was last Sunday after which he directed the Presidential Committee on Relief and Rehabilitation headed by Executive Secretary Salvador L. Marino to hold a meeting in the disaster area to formulate solutions to problems arising from relief operations. Mrs. Macapagal has also been making trips to Taal Lakeshore towns for the past two consecutive days to minister to the health needs of destitute families.

This latest release of P300,000 brings to P800,000 the total funds allotted to the Taal volcano sufferers, broken down as follows: P550,000 to the SWA, P200,000 to the Philippine National Red Cross and P50,000 to the armed forces.

Arriving in Norala, Cotabato at 10:30 a.m., the President makes a short stop of thirty minutes. From there he proceeds to Isulan, Tacurong, Sultan sa Barong Island, Milang, Makilala, Kidapawan, Matalam and Kabacan.

In Kidapawan, the President warns the country would lose the respect of its neighbors if its leadership is assumed by a man "whose integrity is not beyond question, or dispute."

The President rests overnight at the Mindanao Institute of Technology near Kabacan.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal dispatches a message of thanks to President Lyndon B. Johnson for sending to him the first television photograph of the planet Mars taken by the Mariner IV spacecraft last July 14.

In a letter to the U.S. President, the Chief Executive congratulated Mr. Johnson and the American people for the historic flight, and expressed the hope for their continued determination that "man's conquest of space be carried on in the spirit of a peaceful quest for knowledge."

The President states that the successful flight of Mariner IV last July 14 was a triumph of the human spirit in its constant effort to expand the frontiers of human knowledge beyond the bounds of earth and to realize the benefit of that knowledge for all mankind.

**October 6.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring the period from November 28 to December 27, this year, as Philippine Sports Month.

In his proclamation, the President stresses that the greatest asset of a nation is its human resources, and that the promotion of the health and wellbeing of the people through sports is one of the important responsibilities of any government.

The Chief Executive says that while the Philippines used to be the leader of sports in Asia, it is now lagging behind and needs a crash athletic program to regain its leadership in this sphere of human activity.

Noting that a series of big sports events will be held in the country starting November 21, the President stresses such events should provide an excellent opportunity to promote sports in the country as well as friendly ties with other nations.

The athletic events scheduled to be held here till January 2, 1966 are the Second Asian Cycling Championship, the Asian Baseball Conference, the First Asian Amateur Tour of Luzon, the First Philippine Sports Festival and Fair, the Miss Asia Sports popularity and the Miss Philippines Sports Popularity Contest.

Observation of the month will be under the auspices of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Association.

The President leaves the Mindanao Institute of Technology and visits Carmen, in northern Cotabato, before proceeding to Davao.

At past noon, the President arrives in the town of Magsaysay which he inaugurates and whose official he later inducted into office.

At Davao City, the President reiterates the need for sustained moral leadership in order to continue the difficult task of nation-building.

Speaking before a crowd of over 40,000 who had waited patiently for him until early morning at the Rizal Plaza, the President deplores the "obstructionism posed by the defenders of the vested interests and the enemies of change" in his efforts to provide a better life for the poor who have been suffering for centuries.

In Bansalan and Matanao, the President swears into office the officials and members of the Liberal Party Women's Auxiliary Movement headed by Mrs. Phoebe de la Victoria.

The President also addresses huge rallies at Sulop, Malalag, Sta. Maria, Digos and Roxas, and officiates at a mass affiliation of Sta. Maria barrio officials headed by Gregorio Federico.

The President, following the rally, stays overnight at the residence of a friend in Davao City.

**October 7.**—FROM Maco, Davao, President Macapagal extends recognition to the new state of Maldives Island, a sultanate archipelago in the Indian Ocean southwest of India and Ceylon.

The President extends the recognition in line with the Administration's policy of welcoming the emergence of independent nations.

Consisting of 12 stolls which include 2,000 individual islands with an area of 115 square miles and about 93,000 inhabitants, the new state joined the community of free nations on July 26 this year when the United Kingdom granted her independence under an agreement signed by the British high commissioner in Ceylon and the Maldivian prime minister.



As early as the year 1153, the Islands had been under Islamic rule in the course of which a sultanate was founded. From the 16th to the 17th century, the Maldives were under the control of the Portuguese and then the Dutch.

The Islands came under de facto British protection attached to Ceylon from 1776 to 1887, and from 1887 to 1948 they were a tributary to the “British Government of Ceylon.”

On February 4, 1948, when Ceylon became an independent state, the Maldivian Sultanate was detached from the Ceylonese administration and placed under direct British control.

An agreement signed on April 24, 1948 between the Maldivian Sultanate and the British government provided for British protectorateship over the Islands, with the United Kingdom conducting its external affairs and the Sultanate, its internal affairs.

On January 1, 1953, the national assembly abolished the Sultanate and proclaimed the Islands a republic, with an elected president

In the face of popular clamor, however, the national assembly abolished the republic on February 22, 1954 and restored the Sultanate which is headed by a sultan. The sultan is elected by the Parliament called the Majilis, consisting of a Senate of 80 members and a Lower House of 46 members, both chosen by popular vote.

In the afternoon, the President tells a huge crowd in Monkayo, Davao that when elected, the Macapagal-Roxas team would continue giving more lands to the landless “until this land shall truly belong to all Filipinos and not to their exploiters.”

The President points out that the administration’s land-for-the-landless program is essential in the fight against poverty because poverty cannot be minimized and the nation cannot prosper as long as much land is concentrated in the hands of the few while many are left without lands of their own.

The President reiterates his determination to give land to the many landless, saying that he had fought for the land reform program which is giving land to 1.5 million tenant farmers, and is pursuing a program of land-for-the masses that will give to another 1.288 million people government land, or a total of 2.788 million new Filipino landowners.

From Monkayo where he arrives about noontime, the President proceeds to Nabunturan, Mawab, Asuncion, and Kapalong for brief whistlestops, then to Tagum for a mass rally, and another whistlestop at Maco, before returning to Davao City where he will take off the next day for Cagayan de Oro.

**October 8**—PRESIDENT Macapagal approves the commission of five officers in the reserve force of the armed forces of the Philippines.

The President concludes at Davao City his two-day tour in Davao by welcoming into the Liberal Party fold many Nacionalistas who took their oath of affiliation at separate public rallies before dawn today and the other day.

In some towns, the President distributes hundreds of land titles to hitherto landless farmers, in line with the Administration’s land-for-the-masses program.

The Chief Executive starts the distribution of titles at the Toril district of this city to occupants of a former alien property

After swearing in new liberal affiliates in the district; the President sails for Babak and Peñaplata on nearby Samal Island.

On his return to Sasa Wharf at the Davao mainland, the President almost bumps into Senate President Ferdinand Marcos. The NP presidential candidate and his party were about to board a motor launch for Babak when the Chief

Executive and his aides docked at a separate wharf, some 30 meters away. Greetings of “Ayos na” are cheerfully exchanged between their respective aides.

The President proceeds to the northern towns of the province just visited by his NP opponent.

From Davao Airport, the President takes off for Cagayan de Oro City.

Arriving in Cagayan de Oro at 10 a.m., the President proceeds to the church where a *Te Deum* is sung in his honor. From the church, the President inaugurates a GSIS branch.

Then the President addresses the convention of the Reserve Officers League of the Philippines where he lays down a 10-point program of administration designed to promote the national welfare during the next four years.

The President states: “Justifiably confident of victory, I am now prepared to launch projects for rapid progress as a non-political President.”

The Chief Executive is lustily cheered as he outlines ten courses of action which he intends to take during his second and last term of office.

He states:

1. “I will create a concrete highway fund that will link all municipalities to each other with concrete or asphalt roads in four years;
2. “I will provide electrification to all municipalities;
3. “I will give all disposable government lands to the landless;
4. “I will vigorously implement the land reform law;
5. “I will assure an at least P18.50 subsidy price to palay farmers;
6. “I will assure not more than P1 a ganta of rice to consumers;
7. “I will establish a system of schoolbuilding construction and financing of classes to accommodate all Filipino Children in schools in a sufficient number of schoolbuildings;
8. “I will retain free enterprise to let the business community continue developing the national economy with social overhead support as the government can afford;
9. “I will provide free hospitalization to school teachers and members of their immediate families; and
10. “In general, as a non-political President, I shall be thoroughly the President of all the people, unhampered by political exigencies and consecrating my efforts solely and completely to the national welfare.”

The President returns to Davao City from a tour of Davao province at 6 a.m. today.

After a few hours’ rest, he boards a plane for this city to address the ROLP convention,

After his speech, the President flies to Zamboanga City where he boards the RPS “21” for Basilan City.

Following a huge rally in Basilan, the President boards the presidential ship for Malangas, Zamboanga del Sur.

**October 9.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrives Malangas at 9 a.m. and proceeds direct to the church where a *Te Deum* is sung in his honor.

From the church the President inaugurates the public market and addresses a public rally.

Following the rally at Malangas, the President proceeds to Buug, Kumalarang, Nilo, Dumalinao, and Pagadian where he addresses public rallies.

In Pagadian, Zamboanga del Sur, the President urges the people to take advantage of “the golden opportunity” that his candidacy presents— “the opportunity of having a non-political president for the first time in the history of our Republic.”

“Too much politics,” the President explains, “is not-good for the country and hinders national development,” he adds.

With his reelection, the President points out, he, would be kept by the Constitution from running for office again, thus “freeing me from political expediencies to devote my entire time and all my effort to the continuation of our program to bring about the greatest good to the greatest number.”

Following the rally, the President boards the ship for Malabang. He is expected at Malabang the next day where he will board a presidential plane for the return trip for Manila.

*Source:* **National Library**

**President's Week in Review: October 10-23, 1965**

## **President's Week in Review: October 24-30, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**October 24.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal winds up his five day campaign swing through vote-rich Cebu by addressing a mammoth rally in the San Nicolas district of Cebu City this evening (Sun., Oct 24).

A colorful torch parade organized by the Lakambini '65 and the Filipinas for Macapagal-Roxas meets the President at the outskirts of the city in coming from Tabunok where he addressed a huge crowd earlier.

The President is joined in Cebu City by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, who arrived there this afternoon for the closing-day campaign sorties.

Hardly resting after overnight rallies in the fourth and fifth districts of the province, the President was on his feet again early this morning to attend Sunday Mass at the Malabuyoc church.

After breakfast, the President motored to the southernmost town of Santander with whistle-stops in Cinatilan and Samboan.

Following a huge rally in Santander, the President swung northward on the way back to Cebu City, with whistle-stops in Oslob, Alcoy, Dalaguete and Cawayan and addressing enthusiastic crowds in Argao, Sibonga, Carcar, San Fernando, Naga, Minglanilla, Talisay and Tabunok.

Because of the enthusiastic welcomers that met the President all along the way, his itinerary was set back for several hours.

He was expected in Argao for today's first major rally at 11:30 a.m. but because of numerous unscheduled stops, the President instead reached the town at 1:30 p.m.

From then on, the President's schedule got more and more disrupted as more tumultuous crowds met him in the eastern coastal towns on his way to Cebu City.

**October 25.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal predicts that Iligan will be "the most industrialized, dynamic and fast moving in the Philippines in the next four years."

He is guest of honor and speaker at a ground-breaking ceremony of the projected Iligan Integrated Steel Mill, Inc. (IISMI) complex in Barrio Overton shortly before noon.

With IISMI, the President says, Iligan becomes potentially the greatest industrial city in the country, providing job opportunities to thousands of jobless citizens.

The President states that the steel project, side by side with land reform, would generate the country's future prosperity.

Iligan Mayor Camilo Cabili in turn, states this brings Iligan City to the threshold of a new industrial era. He adds that without President Macapagal's backing, the IISMI would never have been realized.

He also states the steel mill "stands as a lasting monument of the Administration's efforts to hasten our country's economic progress."

The Iligan Steel Mill, as a project, had not been started by previous administrations because of the failure of the Philippine Government to secure the necessary capital to finance it at the beginning.

When President Macapagal went on a State Visit to the United States last year, he was able to convince President Lyndon B. Johnson to, guarantee a \$62.5 million loan from the Export-Import Bank to finance the project.

But early in 1962, former Senator Decoroso Rosales who is vice-president of IISMI recalls, President Macapagal scouted around for potential business leaders who could help the government start the Iligan Steel project.

With Fernando Jacinto as IISMI president, Rosales said the country private sector offers the projected industrial complex as the businessman's contribution to the Government's socio-economic program.

Back in Manila, President Macapagal reaffirms the pledge of the Philippines to share in the defense of freedom at its utmost, capability.

The President makes the reaffirmation at ceremonies marking the turnover of nine F-5 supersonic fighter planes by the United States to the Philippines at the Nichols Air Base in the afternoon.

"This is the pledge and the full measure we will take as we accept delivery of these aircraft from Ambassador Blair," the President says.

He states that after the coming elections, the Philippines will take steps in doing its duty in the defense of freedom beyond its boundaries within the process of democracy.

During the ceremonies, Ambassador Blair makes mention of the ties that bind the Americans and the Filipinos in upholding the cause of freedom.

The President asks the American ambassador to convey to the American people the abiding faith of the Filipino people in the validity and efficacy of the US-PI mutual defense treaty.

"We draw hope and a sense of security from this covenant uniting as they do from a mutuality of interest and from the historic relationship that was strengthened by the trials of war," he says.

The President expresses faith that should war come again the joint efforts of the United States and the Philippines "will show that we have not made our mutual pledges in vain."

This, the President says, was the intent of the framers of the treaty derived from the historic relationship that exists between the US and the Philippines as they fought side by side during the last war.

In accepting the fighter planes, the President gives assurance that they will be employed fittingly and outstandingly in the field of peace.

Part of the turn-over ceremonies is a demonstration of the flying capability of the fighter planes.

**October 26.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal motors to his home province in the afternoon (Tues., Oct. 26) to address rallies in Arayat, Candaba, Floridablanca and Lubao.

Leaving Malacañang at past 4 p.m., the President is met at the Bulacan-Pampanga highway boundary by a big crowd led by; local officials, including Vice Gov. Angel Macapagal, LP official candidate for Congress in the province's second district.

The President was up early this morning although he had not returned to Malacañang until 2:15 a.m. from overnight rallies in Malabon, Rizal and San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City.

He spent the rest of the day working on state papers in his private study.

Meanwhile, the President issues a proclamation declaring Monday, Nov.1, which is-All Saints' Day, a special public holiday in the Philippines.

The President issues the proclamation to give the people full opportunity to observe the day, which is one of their cherished traditions, with all its religious fervor.

**October 27.**—STARTING next pay day, government employees covered by the Minimum. Wage Law will be receiving their P6 daily wage, including differentials.

This is assured by a directive of President Macapagal to Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to implement immediately the new rate of P6 a day.

Immediately upon receipt of the directive, Sy-Changco issues a circular implementing the new minimum wage law in which Auditor General Pedro Gimenez and Civil Service Commissioner Abelardo Subido concurred.

The President issues the directive to Sy-Changco upon learning that a number of employees are not yet reaping the benefit of the new law. He was told employees of the Postal Savings Bank employees staged a strike on this account.

The President says funds for this purpose should be provided, even if allotments for some less important projects of the government are reduced.

The President recalls that he has always worked for the betterment of the working class and that he was instrumental in the making of the country's Minimum Wage Laws.

Meantime, the President gives added impetus to the development of science and technology by releasing the sum, of P1, 399,000 to the National Institute of Science and Technology (NIST) for the purpose.

A check in that amount is presented by Budget Commissioner Faustina Sy-Changco to Dr. Juan Salcedo, chairman of the NIST, who made representations with the President for the release of the fund.

The President assures Dr. Salcedo that an additional half-million peso release would be made during the third and fourth .quarters of the current fiscal year.

In ordering the release of the fund, the President underscores the vital role which science and technology should play in the national efforts for social and economic development.

The fund release came from the fiduciary fund of the NIST in addition to the Institute's programmed funds.

President Macapagal also issues a proclamation reserving as site for a veterans' rehabilitation, medicare and training center a 527,520-square meter lot in Fort Bonifacio, Rizal.

Reservation of the land is made by the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The proposed site will be under the administration of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines.

Calling at Malacañang, leaders of the country's 250 biggest trade, industrial and farmers organizations, including the country's 24 major labor federations, with an aggregate membership of about two million, pledge their support of President Macapagal whom they dub the "Land-giver and Labor Leader of the century."

During their call the labor and farmer leaders present the President with medals and a plaque “in recognition of your Excellency’s accomplishments which make the President the best labor leader and land-giver of the century.”

The labor group cites the President for the passage of the new minimum wage law and other progressive laws calculated to elevate the social status and living standard of the common and insure the exercise of his rights as a free citizen.

Speaking on behalf of the country’s farm hands, Benjamin I. Asa, national president of the Federation of Farmers’ Association of the Philippines, thanks the President for being a “land-giver”. He says the land reform law “which you have caused to be enacted and your land-for-the-landless program have started to benefit millions of Filipino farming families.”

In presenting the medals, Vicente Rafael of the Philippine Labor Unity Movement (PLUM), says: “We are presenting you these medals for being the best bargaining representative of labor, for no other labor union leader was able to get what you got for us.”

Rafael states that for 15 years labor has tried to see other Presidents for the improvement of the minimum wage law, “but those 15 years were 15 years of disappointment and frustration,”

“That is why we consider you as the best labor leader of the century,” he adds.

In pledging the support of the labor organizations to the President, Rafael says; “We believe we are in a better position to say that a man of your competence and conviction should be allowed to continue to serve our country. You are the farmers and the laborers’ candidate.”

In the resolution, the labor leaders cites the President for:

- 1) The Anti-Scab Law which aims at protecting the right of workers to strike and picket;
- 2) The creation of the sugar wage board which raised the minimum wages of sugar central workers from P4 to P5.50, and the agricultural workers from P2.50 to P3.50;
- 3) The newly-enacted minimum wage law which further raised wages of workers and employees from P4 to P6, including those of the sugar industry;
- 4) The creation of a wage board for the mining industry with a view for increasing the wage level of mine workers excluded from the benefits of the general minimum wage law;
- 5) The law increasing the death and disability benefits of the victims of industry from P4, 000 to P6, 000; and
- 6) The enactment of the Land Reform Code, “a landmark in social and economic legislation unequalled in the history of this unfortunate land and which may yet pave the way for the conclusion of the unfinished revolution begun by Andres Bonifacio in 1896.”

These measures, the labor leaders say, prove that “you are unequivocally committed and determined to the further widening of the basic freedoms and opportunities of the Filipino people for the Sharing and enjoyment of the benefits emanating therefrom.”

In presenting the resolution of the Federation of Farmers’ Association of the Philippines, Asa expresses the gratitude of the country’s farmers “for liberating them from what appeared to be a hopeless, life-long agricultural peonage.

In their resolution the farmers’ federation, hail the President for his:



- (1) Sincerity, untiring and sympathetic attitude towards the plight of the farmers of the country;
- (2) Dynamic, sterling leadership, guidance and inspiration culminating in the passage of the Agricultural Land Reform Code which is now being implemented with fervor and determination;
- (3) Having increased the number of government technicians in government agencies resulting in greater assistance to farmers in order to increase their productivity and income;
- (4) Having opened more irrigation facilities in the form of gravity and pump irrigation systems that would benefit the farmers;
- (5) Having expanded and liberalized farm credit facilities which gave farmers opportunity to invest more in their farming activities; and
- (6) Deep and abiding interest in improving the life of the farmers, in general.

In receiving the awards and pledges of support, President Macapagal expresses thanks and elation over the recognition that labor and farmers have given to the efforts of his administration to help them which, he says, he is only too happy to do since they deserve such help and protection.

Among the labor leaders who call on the President, aside from Rafael and Antonio Policarpio, are Pelagio Villegas Federation of Democratic Workers (FDW), Eulogio R. Lerum of the National Labor Union (NLU), Cipriano Malonzo of the Mindanao Federation of Labor (MFL), Temestocles Dizon of the Philippine Trade Union Council (PTUC), Pablo Villaflores of the Federation of Free Workers (FFW), Felixberto Olalia of the National Association of Labor Unions (NAFLU), Francisco Nora of TWU, Dominador Sustento of the International Labor Organization (ILO), and Ricardo Alconga of the National Congress of Union in the Sugar Industry (NACUSIP).

Leading the farmers' group are aside from Asa, Guillermo Fernandez, president of the Bulaeen Farmers Association; Juanito Gozon, president of the Pampanga Farmers Association; and Councilor Anastacio Garcia, president of the Nueva Ecija Farmers Association.

**October 28.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal issues a proclamation extending the national educational and fund campaign of the Quezon Memorial Circle Development and Beautification Committee up to the end of this year.

In issuing the proclamation, the President says the Quezon Memorial Circle needs additional period for the drive in order to complete its laudable civic project.

The President, meanwhile, resumes his vote-consolidation campaign in Laguna and Rizal provinces to ensure an even better over his rivals.

The President returns to Malacañang about 6 a.m. after addressing overnight rallies in the two provinces.

After a brief rest and breakfast, he spends some more time in his private study and work over some official papers before leaving again later in the morning for the days scheduled rallies in the two Tagalog provinces.

The President leaves Malacañang at 10:10 a.m. for the Nichols Air Basis where he takes a helicopter for the towns of Pagsanjan, Siniluan and Sta. Maria in Laguna.

Enthusiastic receptions and unscheduled stops set back his schedule by more than four hours.

He is expected in Tanay, Rizal at 2:30 p.m. but is not able to make it until early evening.

The delay notwithstanding, a big crowd meets the President on his arrival in the town by car from Sta, Maria.

In Tanay, the President also distributes land titles to landless residents of the town.

From Tanay the President proceeds to Taytay for another major rally of the day, with whistle-stops and roadside talks in Baras, Morong, Cardona, Binangonan and Angono.

**October 29.**—THE Presidential launch “The Chief” blows up at about 10:30 a.m. while it is being prepared for the President’s use.

Three members of the crew are injured, one seriously.

The launch itself is a total wreck.

The explosion is so strong that it tears holes in the roof of the boathouse and forces open a door in the office of the Palace auditor above and rocks the surrounding area, specially the Malacañang Press Office nearby, causing panic among the Palace employees.

A full-dress investigation is conducted to ascertain the exact cause of the explosion.

Investigators from the National Bureau of Investigation, Philippine Navy underwater operations unit and Department of Justice look into all aspects of the case.

In view of this, Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño orders the Presidential Security Unit to tighten presidential security measures.

The explosion occurs soon after the boathouse was advised that the President might use the launch to go to Malacañang Park. .

The Aides’ Office has considered the possibility of the President’s using a helicopter from Malacañang Park to Obando, Bulacan where he has scheduled whistle-stop in a stumping tour of the province.

Originally the President was to motor to Bulacan but his departure, scheduled for 10 a.m., is delayed by callers.

As a result of this delay, the President’s aides considered the use of a helicopter so that the President could be in time for his Obando engagement.

However, the plan to use the helicopter was abandoned -when the Aides’ Office was advised that a helicopter would not be ready until 1 p. m.

The call advising the boathouse about the plan to use the launch was made by the President’s aides about 10:15 a.m.

Seriously injured is Roberto Villanueva, 31, a member of the crew.

Also hurt are Salvador Villanueva, 48, launch patron; and Ruben Escresa, 49 coxswain.

The President, from Bulacan, expresses concern over the condition of the injured and directs the Aides’ Office to give them all possible aid.

The President would surely have been hurt had he been aboard at the time.

In the boathouse at the time but with no injury was Artemio Mapalad, helper, who received two calls from the Aides' Office, one alerting the boat-house and the other asking if the launch was ready.

Among some leads unearthed thus far by the investigators are the following:

- (1) The launch engine was tested after the explosion and "it worked fine," indicating that the explosion did not originate from the engine;
- (2) The lunch was used by the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, the day before, and was nothing wrong
- (3) Mapalad was inside the boathouse at the telephone, which is only about a meter from the launch, but was not hurt at all;
- (4) He testified that the boat exploded while the Villanuevas and Escresa were preparing to move the launch to the landing off the Heroes Hall but before the engine was started;
- (5) The boat exploded the moment Mapalad put down the telephone, at the end of the second call ostensibly from the Aides' Office;
- (6) Mapalad was off duty at 8 a.m. but was doing overtime because Pedro Martinez, another member of the crew who regularly helps clean the launch, was absent;
- (7) The launch is supposed to be inspected daily;
- (8) The boathouse is virtually open to anyone although a presidential guard is generally around.

Lt. Ramon Baluyot of the PN underwater operations unit says the launch's hull, which is buried under five feet of mud, would have to be re floated and the pieces of the launch put back together to ascertain the cause.

He says a hoist would have to be installed to bring up the hull and reconstruct the launch.

Baluyut asked for the launch blueprint and logbook.

In the meantime, the boathouse is cordoned off to keep out curious onlookers, and security measures are tightened.

President Macapagal, meanwhile, conducts a one-day back-breaking tour of Bulacan province.

Before embarking on his tour, the President attends to unscheduled callers.

He leaves Malacañang at past 11 a.m. and motors to Meycawayan where he addresses his first major rally.

The President also officiates at the inauguration of a newly-cemented road in the town.

On the way to Meycawayan, the President makes whistle-stops in Obando and Polo.

From Meycawayan, the President proceeds to Sta. Maria, with whistle-stops in Marilao and Bocaue.

After the rally and lunch at the residence of ex-Mayor Eriberto Ramos in Sta. Maria, the President breezes through 12 other Bulacan towns.

He makes roadside talks in Bigaa, Bulacan, Malolos and Paombong and addresses huge enthusiastic rallies in Hagonoy and Calumpit.

In Paombong, the President inducts several Nacionalista leaders into the Liberal Party.

From Calumpit, the President addresses another huge rally in San Miguel after whistle-stops' and roadside talks in Pulilan, Baliwag, San Rafael and San Ildefonso.

**October 30.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal is informed of the elation and appreciation of the sugar industry for his direct support to -the Philippine Sugar Mission to the United States which culminated in favorable US sugar program for the Philippines.

"I wish to report that the direct support you gave your Sugar Mission to the United States headed by Ambassador Oscar Ledesma was the mainline of defense that turned the tide when the Philippines was under siege by competing nations. The Sugar Industry is grateful for your direct assistance, Ernesto V. Santos, Monetary Board member, and a member of the Sugar Mission, says in a formal report to the President.

The US Congress adjourned October 23, after approving the Conference Report which established the sugar program of the United States until Dec. 31, 1971.

In so far as it affects the Philippines, Santos reports, the following would be the Philippine participation in the sugar purchases of the United States for the next six years:

- 1) The Law recognizes the Laurel-Langley basic quota of 980,000 short tons, raw value (STRV);
- 2) Although attempts were made principally by Western Hemisphere countries to take away the increase of 70,000 short tons the Philippines obtained in 1962, this was retained, thus maintaining the previous quota of 1,050,000 short tons;
- 3) For the first time the new law awards the Philippines a participation of 10.88% of the growth of the United States consumption above 9.7 million tons but not exceeding 10.4 million tons. In other words the Philippines would have 10.86% of 700,000 shorts or a ceiling of 76,000 short tons per annum; and
- 4) Increased participation by the Philippines in deficit proration from 31.4% to 47.22% of all deficits, whether domestic or foreign.

Santos explains that Puerto Rican deficit alone for 1965 is 335,000 and chances are that it would remain a heavy deficit country because it is reducing sugar production due to the \$1.75 per hour minimum wage prevailing in that country.

In view of this, Santos says, about 150,000 tons or even better would be allocated to the Philippines from the Puerto Rican source alone.

Santos stresses that Philippine sugar production should never be below 1,900,000 short tons with provision, for growth in its domestic consumption during the life time of the US Sugar Law.

In Guimba, Nueva Ecija, the President meanwhile, announces the sub mission to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank) of a 247-page proposal for financial assistance for a greatly expanded program of irrigation development.

The 247-page document entitled. "Proposal for Financial Assistance for the Irrigation Program of the Philippines" is being submitted to the World, Bank in order that it can undertake the necessary preliminary studies before legislative authority is obtained during the next congressional session in 1966.

The total amount of financial assistance being sought from the World Bank is \$50 million. The program envisions the doubling of the area now served by gravity irrigation through the construction of irrigation systems which will provide water to an additional crop area of around 300,000 hectares within the next five years.

An initial loan application amounting to \$7.5 million to finance the construction of 10 national gravity irrigation systems is also embodied in the document submitted.

The 10 gravity systems will makeup the first of a series of package proposals which will be submitted to the World Bank for financing. When completed, these 10 systems will provide irrigation services to at least 98,000 hectares. The estimated increase in rice production when these systems are fully operational is 3,000,000 cavans.

The World Bank has shown great interest in financing a greatly expanded program of irrigation development for the Philippines. Extensive discussions with World Bank representatives were conducted during the preparation of the said document.

The program proposal for World Bank assistance was prepared by an inter-agency work group headed by the Program Implementation Agency. The document was adopted by the National Irrigation Administration through a Board resolution on August 23, 1965

President Macapagal reveals that the greatly expanded program for irrigation development also seeks to:

1. Rehabilitate and improve the 77 existing national gravity irrigation systems;
2. Complete 22 gravity irrigation projects now under construction;
3. Improve the operation and maintenance of irrigation systems; and
4. Hasten the rate of identifying and constructing new irrigation projects.

President Macapagal also points out that overall economic development of the country is greatly dependent on the progress of agricultural development.”

“Irrigation,” the President states, “holds the key to higher agricultural production and productivity.”

“The completion of this greatly expanded program of irrigation development is a high-water mark in the development of the rice and corn industries of the Philippines,” he says.

President Macapagal also announces in a series of speeches in Nueva Ecija that in his upcoming administration he will give priority to his two-fold program designed to accelerate self-Sufficiency in rice and corn while, at the same time, giving assistance to the people in acquiring their staple food.

Addressing record crowds in Bongabong, Guimba, Muñoz, San Jose and other towns, the President says:

“In our next administration, we shall give priority to the enactment of the rice and corn subsidy project to assure a minimum price of P18.50 a cavan of palay.

“We shall give priority to the enactment of legislation to peg the price of government rice at not more than P1.00 a ganta.

“This two-fold program will accelerate self-sufficiency in rice and corn and, at the same time, give assistance to the people in acquiring their staple food during the process of achieving self-sufficiency.”

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: October 31 - November 6, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**October 31.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal appoints Jesus M. Tayag, a senior executive assistant in the Office of the President, as Chief of Police of Caloocan City.

Arriving from his visits to various towns in Nueva Ecija at 2 a.m., the Chief Executive takes a break from his hectic provincial trips, but nevertheless conducts a tour of Manila's four congressional districts after taking a rest.

Leaving Malacañang with Mayor Antonio J Villegas at 10:30 a.m., the President motors around the second and third districts of the city with Senator Camilo Osias, senatorial candidate Cesar Climaco, Leonardo Fugoso and Sergio Loyola, congressional candidates of the second and third districts, respectively.

Returning to Malacañang shortly after noon, the President, after a brief rest, resumes his tour of the city at 3:20 p.m., this time, in the first and fourth districts with Senator Gerardo Roxas, Representatives Fidel Santiago of the first district and Justo Albert of the fourth joining him.

At the start of his tour of the city's first district, the President receives a thunderous welcome from a noisy crowd at the foot of Del Pan bridge. He motors to Pritil and gets an affectionate welcome from the residents in the place where he spent his student days.

**November 1.**—THE Chief Executive starts the day in Malacañang assisting the First Lady, who is celebrating her 50th birthday, in receiving her well-wishers after which he closets himself in his private study and devotes his time to working on official papers.

At past noon, the President takes time out from his official duties and joins Mrs Macapagal at mass in Malacañang said by Msgr Manuel del Rosario on the First Lady's birthday.

After a brief rest in the afternoon, President Macapagal resumes his paperwork, in the course of which he issues two proclamations; one declaring the period from January 15 to March 31, 1966 as the time for the 19th annual fund campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross and the other setting aside a parcel of public domain in Bay, Laguna as a site for the fresh water fish demonstration and nursery.

In issuing the PNRC fund campaign proclamation, the President says that the organization, through unstinted labor, has proven itself an indispensable institution in the promotion of public welfare, especially during times of emergency, "symbolizing our national spirit of compassion and our aspirations for world peace and understanding." President to cross the Pasig River.

In his other proclamation, the Chief Executive, upon recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources, withdraws from settlement purposes and reserves for a fresh water fish demonstration farm and nursery site, under the supervision of the commissioner of fisheries, a parcel of land totalling 98,621 square meters located in Sto. Domingo, Bay, Laguna.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal receives a message from Indian President S. Radhakrishnan, expressing his country's gratification over the former's providential escape from what could have been a serious disaster as a result of last Friday's violent explosion of the presidential motor launch "The Chief" in the Malacañang boathouse which was about to be used by the President to cross the Pasig River.

The wire of the President of India follows:

“I have just seen the press report of the explosion in the motor boat which was about to be used by Your Excellency and hasten to express on behalf of all of us in India our great gratification at your Providential escape from what might have been a serious disaster.

“With best wishes—S. Radhakrishnan”

**November 2**—PRESIDENT Macapagal signs the promotion papers of a total of 759 reserve officers in inactive status of the Armed Forces of the Philippines upon the recommendation of Defense Secretary Macario Feralta, Jr.

Of the 759 officers whose promotions the President approves, 284 are first lieutenants to the rank of captain and 475 are second lieutenants to the rank of first lieutenant.

After signing the promotion papers, the Chief Executive motors to the Nichols Air Base where he boards the presidential Fokker plane, “The Common Man” for Iligan City then transfers to a C-47 for a *miting de avance* in Cotabato, Cotabato.

Arriving at Cotabato at about 8:30 o’clock in the morning, the President receives a warm welcome from the Muslim leaders and Cotabato residents led by Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun.

While in Cotabato, President condones the account of settlers in the defunct LASEDECO settlement.

The President, after the well attended Cotabato rally and lunch at the residence of Speaker Protempore Pendatun, flies to Cagayan de Oro City for an early afternoon rally, after which he enplanes for Davao City for the day’s last *miting de avance* and simultaneous rallies in Rizal Park, Tagum and Digos, Davao. A torch parade precedes the Davao City rally.

In the course of his tour of the Mindanao provinces, President Macapagal is presented with a resolution signed by 27 labor leaders of the region manifesting “absolute and unqualifiedly our faith in the program of the administration.”

In their resolution, the labor leaders points out that throughout his career as a public officials, the President “has displayed the highest degree of competence, integrity, sincerity and dedication to duty in all positions he has occupied.”

They states that as congressman, the President authored, among others, “momentous pieces of legislation, notably the Minimum Wage Law; and as President, he initiated the enactment of the Land Reform Code, the raising of the minimum wage from P4 to P6 a day and the amendment to the Work men’s Compensation Act which, they said, “are all milestones in the struggle of labor for economic upliftment.”

**November 3**.—WHILE in Davao City, the Chief Executive names Colonels Ramon Gelvezon and Segundo Gazmin as Brigadier Generals.

Aside from the promotion of the AFP colonels to one-star generals, the President, before flying for Tacloban City at 8:00 o’clock in the morning aboard the presidential Fokker Plane, “The Common Man”, approves the promotion of a total 111 second lieutenants to the next higher rank and the commission of 15 officers in the reserve force of the AFP.

Of the commissioned reserve officers, five are first lieutenants and 10 are second, lieutenants in various branches of the service.

Arriving in Tacloban City about an hour and a half airplane trip from Davao City, an unprecedented big crowd enthusiastically acclaims the President during his first *miting de avance* in the Visayan provinces.



After the morning rally at the city's Capitol Park, the Presidential party proceeds to the, Capitol building for lunch with Leyte Governor Norberto Romualdez, Jr as host.

From Tacloban, the President flies to Bacolod City when he is to have another *miting de avance*.

Big delegations headed by City Mayor Romeo Gumanzon, Governor Benjamin Gomez of Negros Occidental, former Prisons Directors Felix Amante, other congressional candidates and Negros leaders accords the Chief Executive a warm welcome upon his arrival at the airport.

From the airport, President Macapagal goes to the city cathedral for a *Te Deum* in his honor after which he walks to the nearby city park/where a huge crowd is anxiously awaiting his arrival.

The Bacolod rally, ends with the President distributing deeds of sale to some 238 tenants at the Bacolod PHHC site.

The President leaves for Cebu City late in the afternoon for the day's last *miting de avance* at the city's reclamation site.

Meanwhile, the President congratulates the Philippine Navy officers and men of the RPS "Bulacan" and EPS "Iloilo" led by Lieutenants Tomas Florendo and Serapio Martillano, respectively, for having successfully, apprehended about 1,200 cases of blue seal cigarettes in two separate operations.

The Chief Executive also commands the officers and men of the RPS "Cebu" under the command of Lt Brillante Ochoco for the apprehension of three speedboats with thousands of cases of blue seal cigarettes off Celebes sea and Manuk Manka Island on October 30 and 31 this year.

In his congratulatory messages to the Philippine Navy Flag Officer in Command, the President thanks the Navy for its efforts in helping curb smuggling.

The President arrives early in the morning at Cebu City on board the presidential Fokker plane from Bacolod City for another grand rally at the San Nicolas district.

During the rally wherein a mammoth crowd braves the heavy downpour and prods the President to go on with his speech, President Macapagal, who is himself drenched, expounds on the issues of the present presidential campaign.

**November 4.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, arriving at Legaspi City in the morning from Cebu City where he addresses a mammoth rally considered to be the biggest in the current campaign.

On hand to meet the President at the city airport is an enthusiastic crowd led by city officials.

From the airport, the Chief Executive motors to the city's high school grounds for another big rally after which he holds a luncheon conference with local leaders at the Mayon Hotel.

After a brief rest, President Macapagal motors to Camalig, Albay where he takes the presidential train for Iriga and then to Naga City where he addresses still another huge *miting de avance*.

The President spends the night at Naga City.

**November 5.**—BARELY two and a half hours after his arrival at Malacañang from his Bicolandia at 7 a.m., the Chief Executive boards a helicopter for San Juan, Batangas where he receives tremendous cheers from a big crowd on hand to welcome him on his arrival.

The presidential motorcade which proceeds towards the towns of Rosario and Padre Garcia, Lipa City, Malvar and Tanauan, moves at snail's pace most of the time to allow people who wish to shake the President's hands.

Upon arrival at Tanauan, President Macapagal pays a visit to and lays flowers at the tomb of the late Senator Jose P Laurel, Sr.

The Chief Executive, after a lunch at the residence of Tanauan Mayor Pedro Gonzales, motors to Fernando Air Base and boards a helicopter for Calatagan on the southwestern coast of Batangas.

From Calatagan, he takes the same helicopter for Mabini from where he resumes his visits to other Batangas towns and later addresses two huge and well-attended rallies at the Batangas provincial capital and another at Ibaan.

While in Ibaan, President Macapagal instructs acting Executive Secretary Salvador L Mariño to cause the immediate approval of the newsreel taken of the NP rally in Cebu City to enable it to be shown to the public immediately.

After the rally in Ibaan, the President proceeds to Sta Cruz, Laguna where he is to address another rally.

**November 6**—THE Chief Executive, arriving at Malacañang early in the morning from Batangas, confines himself in his private study where he works on official papers in the course of which he approves the promotion of 99 officers in the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Of the officers whose promotions the President approves upon; the recommendation of Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., 46 were to the rank of lieutenant colonel, 44 to major and one to captain; and three to lieutenant senior grade and five to lieutenant junior grade, both in the inactive status of the reserve force of the Philippine Navy.

At the same time, President Macapagal issues a proclamation declaring Monday, November 8, a day sandwiched by Sunday and election day, as a special public holiday. In declaring the date a special holiday, the President says it is necessary that the people be given all the opportunity to exercise the right of suffrage.

The President states many voters are registered in the provinces and they need to go home to vote.

The proclamation, however, does not include government offices or media, such as the bureau of Telecommunications and all its telegraph offices all over the country, which shall, as usual be open for business on the said day.

President Macapagal also approves the concurrent accreditation of the Philippine ambassador to Spain to Maghreb countries of Morocco, Tunisia and Libaya in North Africa

Upon approval of said accreditation which is recommended by the Department of Foreign Affairs "in view of the growing importance of these North African nations," the President directs Foreign Affairs Secretary Mauro Mendez to initiate steps to effect the early accreditation of Ambassador Leon Ma Guerrero, Jr., Philippine envoy to Spain as non-resident diplomatic representatives of the Republic to the three North African states.

In the afternoon, the Chief Executive holds a press conference with local newsmen and foreign correspondents who are in town to cover next week's elections.

The President also inducts Cols Ramon Gelvezon and Segundo Gazmin as brigadier generals in the AFP after which he motors to Meycawayan, Bulacan; San Fernando, Pampanga; Cabanatuan City and Gapan Nueva Ecija where he addresses a series of public rallies.

From Cabanatuan City, the President proceeds to Baguio City where he spends the night.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

## **President's Week in Review: November 7-13, 1965**

### **OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW**

**November 7.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrives in Malacañang at 3 a.m. after overnight rallies in Nueva Ecija towns. At 9 a.m., however, the President again motors to Nichols Air Base where he boards the presidential Fokker plane for Baguio City where He hears Sunday mass at the city cathedral before addressing a rally at the city' market' place.

During the rally, the Chief Executive signs two proclamations excluding from the townsite reservation certain parcels of land and 'reserving them for housing purposes.

Following the Baguio rally, President Macapagal boards the Presidential Fokker plane for San Fernando, La Union for another public rally.

At the La Union capital, he inaugurates a newly-constructed P250, 000-Hall of Justice of La Union, project of ex-Senator Alejo Mabariag.

After the San Fernando rally the Chief Executive boards a helicopter for Tarlac, Tarlac and then to Urdaneta, Pangasinan for other public rallies. The President winds his provincial tour of the day with a last rally in Dagupan City.

Meanwhile the Chief Executive issues Administrative Order No. 142 condoning all outstanding rentals and interests due bonafide tenants and occupants of lots and farms in the Lian estate in Batangas.

The issuance of the order, which was recommended by Land Authority Governor Benjamin Gozon and upon petition of the Municipal council of; Linn, is in pursuance of the President's land-for-the-landless' program.

In condoning the back rentals, President Macapagal points out that imposition of such rentals has resulted in the institution of landlord-tenant relationship which was not in accordance with the intent and spirit of the Constitution and Commonwealth Act No. 539.

He adds that the failure of the tenants to pay rentals was due partly to their justified conviction that they were to buy the land at cost and were not supposed to pay for its use since the estate was purchased by the government in their behalf and was paid for with government funds for which no interest was paid.

At the same time, President Macapagal receives congratulatory messages hailing him for lifting the 20 percent dollar retention fee of the Central Bank.

Placido L. Mapa, Sr. Metropolitan Bank president and former Secretary of Finance, in hailing the President, stated the lifting by the dollar retention fee, besides being a stabilizing factor in the business and investment climate was also a boon to the agricultural sector which employs several millions of workers.

Mapa said the increase in peso earnings of export industries like abaca, coconut, sugar, lumber and minerals would amount to about P250 a year.

He also observed that the foreign exchange resources enumerated by the President were quite ample, substantial and more than 'adequate: to support the peso at its new par value of P3.90 to \$1.00.

Speaking as a banker, Mapa observed that the additional P250 million that will now remain in the banking system will ease the credit situation all over the country considerably and enable the commercial banks to adequately assist the businessmen, agriculturists/and industrialists, especially domestic industries operated by Filipino entrepreneurs.

This, he said, would result in higher production and abundant supply of domestic requirements of the population.

On the other hand, Mapa pointed out that the increased output of export products that will follow because of the lifting of the 20 percent retention will bring a substantial increase in dollar earnings for the country.

Because of this, Mapa said, the country may look forward to a major improvement in the national economy as well as greater employment opportunities for its growing population.

Aside from Mapa, Sr., J. P. Marcelo of the Marcelo enterprises also hails the President for the abolition of the 20 percent dollar retention fee and the fixing of the par value of P3.90 to \$1.00.

**November 8.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal arrives in Malacañang at 6 a.m. after addressing *miting de avance* rallies in Northern and Central Luzon.

Receiving no callers the whole day, the Chief Executive devotes most of his time working on state papers after taking a brief rest.

Late in the afternoon, President Macapagal leads a motorcade in Pandacan and Sta. Ana where city residents, upon learning of the President's presence in the vicinity, rush to the streets to greet him as he passes by.

With him during the motorcade are Manila City Mayor Antonio J. Viljegas and Councilor Jose Villanueva.

From the Pandacan Sta. Ana motorcade, the President returns to Malacañang and then to Plaza Miranda where he addresses a record crowd at the *miting de avance* of the Liberal Party.

During his speech, President Macapagal enumerates the following accomplishments of his administration during the last four years which he says, constitute the groundwork for rapid, economic, social and moral progress:

1. Land reform which readies our farmers to own their own land so that they might perform their role of producing the food of the nation, the raw materials for our factories and buying the products of industry.
2. Decontrol and free enterprise so that productive enterprise shall become more vigorous in the hands of businessmen and other citizens by the stimulation of their initiative, talent and energy.
3. A formal blue-print of economic and social development—the five-year socio-economic program—as a guidepost to both the private and public sector in a joint partisanship for the acceleration of progress.
4. The commencement of an integrated social program to provide tenement homes for the homeless, land for the landless, rice at P1.00 a ganta, increase of the minimum wage from P4 to P6, and labor proprietorship in some factories.
5. Enhancement of the national individuality by setting June 12 as Independence Day, thereby gaining a respectable place and role in the family of Afro-Asian nations to which our country belongs.
6. The improvement of the tone of morality and integrity in the government as attested by the Pagcom report that there has been marked improvement in the public morality in the upper echelon of officialdom.
7. The capture of the Huk “brains” and top leader, thereby firming up the ability of the Republic to insure security, peace and instability which are an essential setting for economic and social development and which are a marked contrast to the bloody upheavals going on in neighboring countries.

At the same time, the Chief Executive, in a message issued on the eve of the elections, said: "My prayer on this day is that we shall have a peaceful and orderly elections and that we shall demonstrate our political maturity to the whole world.

"During this campaign there has been much talk about violence and trouble on election day.

"To me, personally, this is a painful and distressing. For I feel very strongly that no man's victory in any political contest justifies a single act of violence against any citizen or the loss of a single drop of Filipino blood.

"I ask everyone therefore to exercise their sacred' right of suffrage, of free choice, and to allow everyone else to do the same in peace and in freedom.

In another election eve message, the President also expresses his personal and warm gratitude to the Filipino people "for giving' me, a man of humblest origin, the supreme gift within our people's command, the Presidency in 1961; for the assistance you have lent in the past four years and most of all, for the sympathy and understanding with which you have viewed the difficulties and problems that have beset our efforts to complete this transformation of our land."

**November 9.**—THE Chief Executive, with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, leads early morning voters, in casting their ballots in this year's national elections as they leave Malacañang at 8:15 a.m. for Lubao, Pampanga, the President's hometown to cast their votes.

Arriving in Lubao at 9:55 a.m., the First Couple receives an enthusiastic welcome from the townspeople.

After exchanging greetings with his townmates, the President and the First Lady proceed to Precinct No. 3 located at the Lubao Elementary School to cast their votes.

After casting their votes, the First Couple motors back to Manila, arriving in Malacañang about noon after passing by the San Antonio church in Sampaloc for brief prayers.

In the afternoon, after lunch and a brief rest, President Macapagal devotes the rest of the day alternately working on official papers and keeping tab of the progress of the elections.

**November 10.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal, staying at the Pangarap guest house at the Malacañang Park starts the day working on official papers.

Taking a brief rest after lunch, President Macapagal resumes his paperwork till evening, taking time out once in a while to keep tab of the tabulation of election returns.

**November 11.**—BACK at the Palace from the "Pangarap" guesthouse, — where he spent the whole day the day before, the President tackles a new pile of official papers in his private study while keeping tab with the latest election returns, both official and unofficial.

**November 12.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal continues devoting most of his time working on official papers in his private study. Later in the morning, the President confers with publishers and editors of Manila newspapers on the need for sobriety and patience as the results of the last elections are awaited, and whose cooperation he seeks in the speedy transmission of official election returns to the Commission on Elections by provincial and municipal treasurers.

In the afternoon, the President takes time out from his paperwork and motors with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal to the Manila International Airport to meet President and Mrs. Philibert Tsiranana of the Malagasy Republic who are making a brief stop over on their way to Taipeh from Sydney, Australia.

From the Airport, the First Couple returns to Malacañang arriving at the Palace at 7 p.m.

Meanwhile, the Chief Executive commends the crewmembers of RPS “Palawan” under the command of Lt. Ceferino Cordero for apprehending two motor launches loaded with 16,154 cartons of blue seal cigarettes.

In his congratulatory message, the President urges the navy men to “keep up the good work despite the numerous tasks being performed” by them.

**November 13.**—THE Chief Executive starts another day of paperwork in the course of which he signs two executive orders opening two seaports, one in Camarines Sur and another in Romblon.

The President decrees the opening of the port of Pasacao, Camarines Sur as a subport of entry within the collection district of the Port, of Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte.

The President also decrees the opening of the municipal port of Poctoy in Odiongan, Romblon as a national port open to coastwise trade.

The Chief Executive, also likewise, signs an Administrative Order calling upon all government offices, both national and local, to consult the National Economic Council on economic policies and programs.

In signing Administrative Order No. 144, dated; November 12, 1965 the Chief Executive directs all concerned to sound out the NEC on proposed economic policies, plans and programs within their respective spheres of activity and organization, before announcing, implementing and submitting the same to the President for consideration and final approval.

The President cites Reorganization Plan No. 10 which defined, among others, the functions, powers, duties and responsibilities-of the NEC as follows:

“Formulate definite and consistent national economic policies and prepare comprehensive economic and social development programs which, when approved by the President and if necessary, by Congress, shall be implemented by government executive departments, government corporations, governed financial institutions, chartered cities, and other local governments. Plans and programs shall be formulated in component parts, each part to contain those items which each respective government entity department, bank, financial institution, corporation, etc. shall have the responsibility for implementing. Likewise, items which require implementation by private enterprise shall be formulated as component parts of the integrated plans or programs.”

Aside from the administrative and executive orders, President Macapagal also approves the promotions of a total of 76, AFP officers, both in the regular and, reserve forces.

Of the 76 officers whose promotions has been recommended by Defense Secretary Macario Peralta, Jr., 47 are in the Philippine Air Force, 21 in the Philippine Navy, four in the Nurses’ Corps, two, in the infantry, one in the dental service and one in the medical administration corps.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal urges the Commission on Elections “to expedite the submittal to it of election returns and the complete tabulation of election results.

The President in a statement says that he shall make an announcement in consonance with the wholesome tradition of democracy as soon as not only the presidential, but also the vice presidential and senatorial winners are determined in the Comelec Tallies.

*Source:* **National Library**

## **Official Week in Review: November 14 – November 20, 1965**

**November 14.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spends most of his time working on pending state papers and, once in a while, takes time out to keep tab of developments regarding election results, particularly with respect to the vice presidential race which is a close one.

Pausing from his paperwork early in the evening, the President hears mass with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal at the Palace chapel.

**November 15.**—THE Chief Executive names Presiding Justice of the Court of Appeals Conrado Sanchez as Justice of the Supreme Court, and Justice Fred Ruiz Castro to the position vacated by former. At the same time, he elevates Judge Ramon Nolasco of the Manila Court of First Instance to the Appellate Court.

In the afternoon, President Macapagal administers the oath of office to the following officials in separate ceremonies at Malacañang:

1. Press Secretary Virgilio P. Reyes, as career minister of the Republic of the Philippines; and
2. Dr. Jose O. Pelayo, SWA officer-in-charge, as Social Welfare Administrator.

The President also inducts Brig. Gen. Victor Dizon as major general; Cols. Faustino Sebastian, First PC Zone deputy commander; and Horacio Farolan, First Air Defense Division commanding officer as brigadier generals; and swears in 26 lieutenant colonels to full-fledged colonels and six as captains in the Philippine Navy.

Following the induction ceremonies, President Macapagal receives Deputy Prime Minister John McEwan of Australia who is paying the former a courtesy call. Minister McEwan is on his way home from Tokyo.

The President also receives Congressmen-elect Benjamin Tabios of Bukidnon, Sergio Loyola of Manila's third district, Jose Yap of Tarlac, Tito Dupaya of Cagayan and Luciano Joson of Oriental Mindoro.

In the evening, the President sees more callers led by Vice President Emmanuel Pelaez, newly-elected representative of Misamis Oriental, and ex-Sen. Roseller Lim.

Meanwhile, the President pays tribute to the late President Elpidio Quirino, saying the latter was a "great Filipino leader who dedicated his entire lifetime to the service of his country."

In his message on the eve of the late President's 75th birth anniversary, the Chief Executive observes that as it is with most truly great men, Quirino had been much misunderstood even maligned in his lifetime.

However, the President adds, "we whom he served and loved realize now the devotion of his great leader, and the clouds of doubts, bitterness and suspicions which darkened his administration have cleared, revealing the true image of the man upon whom national acclaim should now be showered."

Concluding, the President says:

"Let this image of nobility and greatness remain undimmed, for Quirino was one of the great presidents of our country. Let us all remember him on this, his 75th birth anniversary, and pay him the supreme tribute by emulating his unselfish devotion to our country's welfare."

The full text of President Macapagal's message follows:



“Today we pause to observe the 75th birthday anniversary of the late President Elpidio Quirino, a great Filipino leader who dedicated his entire lifetime to the service of his country.

“As it is with most truly great men, Quirino was much misunderstood and even maligned in his lifetime. Indeed we are just now beginning to realize his greatness and the worth of his leadership. He lived during a period in our history which was fraught with uncertainties and dangers, but the man who held the reins of government was certain and unwavering and through to perilous years of the Nation’s infancy, Quirino’s sure vision saw the national goals and in that direction he guided the country’s destiny. He labored ceaselessly to promote the weal of his countrymen, and in this task he drew much from his wealth of political experience and maturity for the moral concepts that were the constant guideposts of his administration.

“We whom he served and loved realize now the devotion of this great leader, and the clouds of doubts, bitterness and suspicions which darkened his administration have cleared, revealing the true image of the man upon whom national acclaim should now be showered.

“Let this image of nobility and greatness remain undimmed, for Quirino was one of the great presidents of our country. Let us all remember him on this, his 75th birth anniversary, and pay him the supreme tribute by emulating his unselfish devotion to our country’s welfare.”

The Chief Executive also signs two proclamation, one declaring the period from November 24 to 30 this year as History Week and designating the Philippine Historical Association and the National Coordinating Center for the Development and Education of Children to jointly take charge of its observance; and the other making public the trade agreement between the Philippines and Australia which had been concluded in Manila June 16 of this year.

In issuing the first proclamation, the President points out that a nationwide seminar on the theme, “The Youth and the Teachings of Filipino Heroes,” will be held on November 24 to 30, this year, jointly sponsored by the Philippine Historical Association and the National Coordinating Center for the Development and Education of Children.

“It is necessary that such an important event be brought to the attention of the people so as to arouse in them a deeper historical consciousness and to inspire reverence for Filipino heroes and emulation of their exemplary lives,” the President states.

The trade agreement between the Philippines and Australia came into force on June 16 this year, the date it was signed by the contracting parties. As stipulated in the agreement, it will remain in force for a period of one year and thereafter, until the expiration of 90 days from the date on which one of the governments receives from the other a written notice of its intention to terminate the treaty.

The Chief Executive likewise directs government financial institutions to exercise “extreme care” in passing upon all new and/or pending financial obligations.

In issuing the directive through Armand Fabella, assistant executive secretary on economic and financial affairs, the President enjoins the government financial institutions to “exercise extreme care in passing upon all new and/or pending large loans and other financial applications as well as in any substantial release of funds, deferring action on them whenever possible.”

The directive, which is addressed to the Philippine National-Bank, the Government Service Insurance System, the Development Bank of the Philippines and the Social Security System, takes effect immediately and shall remain in force until further notice.

It also urges these financial institutions to limit the action as much as possible to “matters of a routinary or non-controversial nature.”

**November 16.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal closets himself in his private study and spends the whole morning working on official papers.

Taking a pause from his paperwork early in the afternoon, the President receives Illinois state Gov. Otto Kerner who calls on the former to pay his respects following his arrival in the country for a three-day business and pleasure trip.

With President Macapagal and Gov. Kerner is US Ambassador William McC. Blair, Jr., who accompanied the latter.

Later in the afternoon, President Macapagal receives some callers with Sen. Maria Kalaw Katigbak heading them.

In the evening, the Chief Executive presides over a meeting of his Cabinet during which he instructs all department secretaries to prepare their respective departments for a smooth and orderly turnover to the incoming administration.

**November 17.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal closets himself in his private study, starts the day working on a pile of state papers.

Early in the afternoon, the President receives a number of callers consisting mostly of local government officials who calls on him to report on the election results in their respective localities.

Later, President Macapagal also receives Robert Shaplen of the New Yorker Magazine to whom he gives a brief interview.

In the evening, the Chief Executive confers with officials of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation headed by PHHC Board Chairman Pete de Jesus during which the former orders the speeding up of the construction of the two remaining tenement buildings with which the administration had planned to provide wholesome homes to the poor.

The government so far has completed two tenement buildings located in Vitas, Tondo and Punta, Sta. Ana, both in Manila which were rented out at nominal rates to hundreds of poor families.

The two other buildings which are nearing completion and will be ready for occupancy before the end of the year are located at the former National Development Company compound in Sta. Mesa, Manila and in Fort Bonifacio, Rizal.

**November 18.**—FOLLOWING breakfast with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal and after reading the morning papers, the President confines himself in his private study and spends another day working mostly on state papers.

However, President Macapagal takes time out from his paperwork late in the afternoon to receive some national and local government officials reporting on the actual results of the elections in their respective localities.

**November 19.**—THE Chief Executive devotes most of his time working on official papers in his private study, in the course of which he signs two proclamations one declaring Monday, November 22, as a special public holiday in Mataas Na Kahoy, Batangas and the other authorizing the Philippine Cancer Society to conduct a national education, membership and fund drive during the period from December 15, this year to February 28, 1966.

President Macapagal issues the Mataas Na Kahoy proclamation upon the request of the people of the municipality who wished for an opportunity to honor with appropriate ceremonies, the late Lt. Col. Antonio Madigma, first mayor of the town, on his 32nd death anniversary.

In issuing the other proclamation, the President observes that since the organization of the Philippine Cancer Society eight years ago, it has served more than 34,000 patients by giving free medical services, disseminating information on the disease, and conducting researches in the field of cancer.

He further states that the Society has successfully pioneered and spearheaded the move towards the prevention and control of cancer, one of the top killer-diseases in the country, through its three-point control program.

Later, the President receives PCI Vice-President George Marcelo and Pablo Silva, and D. M. Guevarra who paid a courtesy call.

Others who came to visit the President in the afternoon are local government officials.

**November 20.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal closets himself in his private study and spends most of his time working on state papers during which he approves the commission papers of 21 individuals in the AFP reserve force.

Of those commissioned, three are in the medical corps, four in the Dental Service, three in the Nurses' Corps, two in the Judge Advocate General's Service, and nine are without specification of branch of service.

In the evening, the Chief Executive takes time out from his paper work to receive Senator-elect Sergio Osmeña, Jr. and reelected Rep. Tereso Dumon of Cebu's 7th district.

President Macapagal later instructs acting Executive Secretary Salvador L. Mariño to direct all government agencies and corporations to submit to Malacañang for examination all pending government contracts involving large amounts in order to prevent irregularities in the approval and implementation of these contracts.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1965). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 61(51), cdv-cdviii.

## **Official Week in Review: November 21 — November 26, 1959**

**November 21.**—SPENDING a quiet Sunday, the President devotes the early morning hours to reading newspapers and weekend magazines, after which he works on state papers.

President Macapagal does some writing after his paperwork in the afternoon, and in the evening, together with the First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal, he hears mass at the Palace chapel.

**November 22.**—THE Chief Executive gives breakfast in honor of visiting American congressmen led by Representative Clement J. Zablocki of Wisconsin, and their ladies, who pay the President a courtesy call.

During the hour-long breakfast, the President and the American solons and their ladies exchange impressions on a variety of subjects.

The U. S. congressmen and their ladies, who were accompanied to Malacañang by Speaker Cornelia T. Villareal and American Ambassador William McCormick Blair, Jr. arrived in Manila for a five-day visit.

In the afternoon, President Macapagal receives callers consisting mostly of members of Congress, other national and local officials.

The Chief Executive, after a series of conferences with government officials on his pet projects, also directs Land Authority Governor Benjamin Gozon and Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano to go on with the distribution of land titles to those deserving as soon as the necessary papers has been processed.

The directive is in pursuance of the Chief Executive's "Land for the Masses" program, which involves the distribution of some 4.5 million hectares of alienable and disposable public lands to more than 1.2 million landless families.

The President, during his tour of the provinces, had already distributed thousands of land patents and titles.

**November 23.**—THE Chief Executive, in the course of his paperwork in the morning, signs two proclamations; one declaring Thursday, November 25 as a special public holiday for National Thanksgiving, and the other designating the period from November 22 to December 31, this year, as the time within which the Philippine Cycling Association may conduct its fund-raising drive.

In his November 25 proclamation, the President says it is but fitting that a day be set aside on which to dedicate noblest thoughts in prayer and thanksgiving to God for all His blessings.

President Macapagal, in the same proclamation, also enjoins the people "to turn their thoughts on that day to the Lord and offer Him a prayer of thanks for all the blessings He has bestowed upon us."

In issuing the Philippine Cycling Association's fund-raising proclamation, the President calls upon all residents, firms and organizations to support the campaign and authorizes all heads of government offices and employees to accept, for the PCA which has been charged with the task of organizing the first Asian sports festivals and fair in the Philippines, fund-raising responsibilities in their respective communities.

The fund will be needed in conducting the various events such as the Second Asian Cycling Championship, the First Philippine Sports Festival and Fair, and the Miss Asia Contest, among others.

In the afternoon, President Macapagal receives the different department undersecretaries who called on him and whom he urges to continue discharging the responsibilities of their respective offices "to the best you can for the good of the country" even if there should be a change of administration.

The President further tells the undersecretaries that he felt they should stay put in their respective offices “because you are career men”

The Chief Executive also explains to them that by tradition department undersecretaries stay in their respective positions although administrations come and go.

“But over and above all, work to the best you can for the good of the country,” the President further states.

Later in the afternoon, the Chief Executive receives some government officials led by Agriculture Secretary Jose Y. Feliciano, and in the evening he also receives congressional officials headed by Speaker Protempore Salipada Pendatun.

Sometime during the day, President Macapagal is presented with a Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines resolution expressing the chamber’s “sincere gratitude and in years to come the high regard of the Filipino people” for the lifting of the 20 per cent retention scheme of the Central Bank and the fixing of a stable rate of foreign exchange for the Philippine peso.

In expressing the thanks and gratitude of the Filipino businessmen in general and of its members in particular, the CCP board described the President’s action as “a measure that has established one of the principal milestone on the road to national economic stabilization, development and progress.”

The directive lifting the 20 percent retention scheme and fixing a stable rate of foreign exchange for the Philippine peso was issued by the President on November 6.

**November 24.**—THE Chief Executive, spending most of the day working on state papers in his private study, receives local and national officials who discusses with him matters concerning their respective localities.

Towards evening, the President receives DBP Gov. and Mrs. Antonio Esteban, Administrator Alberto Villavert of the Philippine Veterans Administration, Chairman and Mrs. Primitivo Sato of the Civil Service Board of Appeals, as well as Julio Balbao and other officials of the Naval Architecture and Marine Engineers who petitioned for the implementation of Republic Act No. 4565 which seeks to regulate the practice of naval architecture and marine engineering in the country.

At the same time, President Macapagal calls upon his countrymen to offer to the Lord for the blessings He “has bestowed upon our Land.”

In his message on the eve of Thanksgiving Day which he earlier proclaimed a special public holiday, the President states there are many things for which this country and its people should be thankful, foremost among these is the blessings of peace in our midst.”

President Macapagal says that “while all around us, especially in Asia, it seems to be the lot of people to suffer a disruption of the even tempo of normal living because of war, we in this country have so far enjoyed comparative peace and quiet.”

The President further says that although the Republic has not been spared the pains that usually attend growth and progress, it has nonetheless been blessed with a concomitant peace so necessary in its struggle for a place among the free nations of the world.

“If for this alone and for the gift of a bountiful nature which God has showered upon our land, we should pause today to give our thanks,” the President states.

“May God continue to bless our country with peace and plenty, he concludes.

The full text of the President's message follows in full:

"Today is Thanksgiving Day.

"In the lives of individuals as well as of nations a day is usually set aside for thanksgiving. The traditional way of giving thanks for divine goodness and mercies is through prayers or utterances coming direct from the heart and expressing gratitude for favors bestowed upon us by the Lord or by friends.

"There are many things for which our country and people should be thankful. Foremost among these is the blessing of peace in our midst. While all around us, especially in Asia, it seems to be the lot of people to suffer a disruption of the even tempo of normal living because of war, we in this country have so far enjoyed comparative peace and quiet. True, our Republic has not been spared the pains that usually attend growth and progress. But it has nonetheless been blessed with a concomitant peace so necessary in its struggles for a place among the free nations of the world.

"If for this alone and for the gift of a bountiful nature which God has showered upon our land, we should all pause today to give our thanks. May God continue to bless our country with peace and plenty."

**November 25.**—THE Chief Executive starts Thanksgiving Day by hearing mass at the Palace chapel.

After reading the morning newspapers, President Macapagal goes over state papers.

The Chief Executive commutes to life imprisonment the death sentences of six convicts and the granting of absolute pardon to another.

The President granted the executive clemency upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

Taking his lunch at 1 p.m., President Macapagal takes a brief rest before resuming his paperwork in his private study.

**November 26.**—PPRESIDENT Macapagal, in the course of his work on state papers in his private study, signs the deportation of six Chinese found violating Philippine laws and whose presence in the Philippines is a menace to the peace and security of the community.

The deportees were found guilty of the following:

1. Violation of the Revised Administrative Code regarding prohibited drugs;
2. Illegal possession of opium and maintaining an opium den;
3. Violation of opium law and the alien registration law; and vagrancy; and
4. Kidnapping.

In the afternoon, the President receives the members of the consultative committee of the Asian Development Bank headed by Commerce Secretary Cornelio Balmaceda, committee chairman, who paid him a courtesy call.

The Chief Executive, during the call of the ADB consultative committee members which include ECAFE Secretary General U Nyun, C. S. Krishnamoorthi of India, A. M. Qureshi of Pakistan, Khodadad and Farinanfarmaian of Iran, Sommad Huntrakoon of Thailand, Hguyen Cao Hock of South Vietnam, Takeshi Watanabe of Japan, Gunasekara of Ceylon, Amado Cruz of the Philippines and Commerce Undersecretary Medina Lacson de Leon, says that the

Filipino people are very keenly interested in the establishment of the proposed Asian Development Bank in the Philippines.

During his conference with the ADB consultative committee, the President also expresses the belief that the next administration would fully favor the ADB's being located in this country."

The President is informed by Secretary Balmaceda that the finishing touches and other preparatory arrangements for the proposed bank had been completed and what only remains is the committee decision on the possible location of the bank.

After meeting the ADB consultative body, President Macapagal receives the Philippine Sugar Institute directors headed by Chairman Marciano Dizon who called to thank the President for writing a letter to U. S. President Lyndon B. Johnson requesting for increased quota on Philippine sugar export to the United States.

Later, the President meets with National Treasurer Amable Aguiluz who reported on the latest financial position of the government.

Other afternoon callers consist of local and congressional officials.

Meanwhile, President Macapagal receives a letter from the Sugar Development Committee hailing him for the advances made by the Philippine Sugar Industry during the last four years.

In the letter signed by SDC Chairman Jose Mapa Gomez, Gomez said that President Macapagal's letter to President Johnson of the United States last April was a decisive factor in enabling the Philippines to have an additional yearly quota in the U.S. Sugar Market of about 250,000 tons for five years, or additional yearly income of about P35,000,000 for the Filipinos.

"Without your letter, the Philippines could not have obtained this additional quota," Gomez said.

The SDC chairman also informed the President that the report of the Audit of the Philippine Sugar Industry prepared by an internationally known sugar consultants firm is now being released in its entirety for dissemination to all segments of the industry.

The enthusiastic response of both the sugar planters and millers to the report, Gomez said, has been aptly stated by Don Carlos L. Locsin, one of the foremost authorities in the industry, as a survey that can trigger the timely implementation of a sound and much needed action program for revitalizing the Philippine sugar industry.

Gomez said the report is profoundly significant to the industry in that it is concerned not only with the welfare of one group or class but with all those involved in the sugar industry, from the farm workers to the planters and millers.

His committee has started implementing several of the projects recommended in the report, he said.

In the evening, the Chief Executive presides over the meeting of his cabinet, the second since the November 9 elections.

**November 27.**—PRESIDENT Macapagal spends the whole morning working on official papers, in the course of which, he signs the appointments of the following:

1. Assistant Director Artemio Gesmundo as director of the Bureau of Soils;
2. Maximo Pepa as director of the Fiber Inspection Service;

3. Godofredo Piñon as commissioner of public highways; and

4. Feliciano Jover Ledesma as associate justice of the Court of Appeals.

The President, continued pushes through implementation of his “land-for-the-masses” program as he leaves Malacañang at 4 p.m. for the Barretto Estate in Pandacan where he distributes 142 more land titles to its present tenants who had been residing there for about 20 years.

The Barretto Estate was bought by the government for resale to the tenants a long time ago, but it was only now that the resale was effected despite promises of past administrations.

In brief remarks during the distribution ceremonies, the President says the land distribution program is a concern of this generation of Filipinos because the Filipinos freedom from foreign rule could be made real and tangible if every Filipino would own a part of the national domain for him “to protect, treasure and defend as a concrete proof of his hope of escape from age-long poverty.”

“It is my prayer, therefore, that not only you shall receive land and the titles thereto under our Administration but that the other landless Filipinos shall come to own land under future administrations until the Filipino people can truly call their country their own,” the President further states.

At the ceremonies wherein Vice Mayor Herminio Astorga and Land Reform Authority Governor are present, the President also extends his gratitude to the people of Manila for the support they gave him and his administration.

After the land title distribution which lasted for two hours, the President motors back to the Palace.

*Source:* **National Library of the Philippines**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1965). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 61(52), cdx-i-cdxiv.



## **Official Week in Review: December 30 — January 12, 1966**

**December 30.**—BY popular mandate of the people, Ferdinand Edralin Marcos is installed formally as the sixth President of the Republic of the Philippines.

The transfer of the reins of administration from Diosdado Macapagal to Ferdinand Marcos takes place a few minutes high noon at the Luneta with Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon administering the oath of office to the new Chief Executive. The ritual of change, which is simple and brief, is witnessed by millions of people including representatives of 38 friendly nations headed by U.S. Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey.

From his residence in San Juan, Rizal, the incoming President motors to Malacañang and, in accordance with tradition, fetches Mr. Macapagal and proceeds to the inaugural rites at the Luneta.

Following a military parade, President Marcos takes his oath of office before Justice Bengzon. Vice-President Fernando Lopez took his before the President.

After the oath-taking ceremony, the new President delivers his inaugural address.

In his speech, President Marcos rallies the country to a new heroic adventure to greatness. His battle cry during the election campaign has now become his hope and vision—"This nation can be great again."

The President urges each of the more than 33 million Filipinos to march forward with him "towards the dream of greatness."

"This is your dream and mine," he declares. "By your choice you have committed yourselves to it. Come then, let us march together towards the dream of greatness."

In his extemporaneous, 30-minute address, the President asks for the "hastening of our social and economic transformation" and the broadening of the "narrow social and economic base" set by earlier Filipino leaders.

The Chief Executive likewise:

1. Bares an administration policy to launch a program of "rigorous fiscal restraint," warning that "conspicuous consumption and extravagance shall be condemned as inimical to public welfare."
2. Declares that he would use the fullest powers of the presidency to stop smuggling and lawlessness.
3. Asks that the Philippines makes common cause with other Asian nations in a drive toward prosperity and peace, and intensify her cultural identity with them.

The President points out:

"One of the most galling of our inherited problems is that of lawlessness. Syndicated crime has been spawned by smuggling. The democratic rule of law has lost all meaning and majesty, since all men know that public officials combine with unscrupulous businessmen to defraud the government and the public—with absolute impunity.

"The sovereignty of the Republic has never before been so derided and mocked as when the lawless elements, the smuggling syndicates and their protectors, disavow the power of laws and of our government over them. This is the climate for criminality. Popular faith in the government deteriorates."

He unfurls a "vision of greatness for our country" and underscores the imperative need of renewing it if the nation was to forge ahead.

The pursuit of this vision, he states, means hardwork, the facing of formidable challenges and overcoming them, good government, the rejection and discarding of “the inertia of centuries,” the exploitation of the nation’s resources, the transformation of the Philippines into a hub of progress and the people’s courageous shaping of their own future.

To achieve this greatness, he says “we must awake the hero in every man.”

He adds: “We must harness the will and the hearts of all our people. We must find the secret chords which turn ordinary men into heroes, mediocre fighters into champions.”

The President warns, however, that “our government is gripped with the iron hand of venality, its treasury is barren, its resources are wasted, its civil service is slothful and indifferent, its armed forces demoralized and its councils sterile.”

But, he said optimistically, “we shall draw from our rich resources of spiritual strength that flow from this place of martyrdom.”

Following his address, the President motors with his family to Malacañang where he and the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, are luncheon hosts to some close friends and members of the President’s official family.

After luncheon, the President inducts the member of his Cabinet on mass and then immediately calls a Cabinet meeting to tackle problems of the country.

During the meeting, the President:

1. Issue Executive Order No. 1 creating an anti-smuggling committee, headed-by Justice Secretary Jose Yulo.
2. Issues Administrative Order No. 1 prohibiting public officials and employees from, dealing directly or indirectly with his relatives and those of the First Lady in matters relating to contracts, purchase of property or supplies and appointment of government personnel.

He also orders:

1. An inventory of the stocks of the Rice and Corn Administration and the Namarco.
2. The creation of study group to assess rice and corn production.
3. The preparation of a report on the irrigation systems of the country.

Present at the Cabinet meeting are: Acting Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista, Secretary of Commerce Marcelo Balatbat, Presidential Assistant on Community Development Ernesto Maceda, Secretary of Public Works designate Antonio Raquisa, Secretary of Foreign Affairs Narciso Ramos, Executive Secretary Rafael M. Salas, Labor Secretary Emilio Espinosa, Jr., OEC Chairman Constancio Castañeda, National Integration Commissioner Mamintal Tamano, NEC Chairman Filemon Rodriguez, Secretary of General Services Vicente Duterte, Secretary of Education Carlos P. Romulo, Finance Secretary Eduardo Romualdez, Secretary of Justice Jose Yulo, Press Secretary Jose D. Aspiras, Land Authority Governor Conrado Estrella and Health Secretary Paulino Garcia.

In the afternoon, the President proceeds to the Luneta and the *Libingan ng mga Bayani* to pay homage at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

From the *Libingan*, he motors to the La Loma Cemetery where he is joined by the First Lady and Mrs. Daniel Romualdez to pay homage at the tomb of the late Speaker Daniel Romualdez.

In the evening, the President joins a group of Manilans at a popular program held at Plaza Santa Cruz to mark the change of administration.

**December 31.**—PRESIDENT Marcos orders the Department of Agriculture to immediately recall all lease contracts entered into by the previous administration in December or earlier for the cutting of timber in any portion of the national forest preserves and national parks.

The President's action is prompted by reports that 46 000 hectare; of the Mt. Apo National Park in Mindanao had been doled out in 10-year lease contracts to a favored few.

In his directive the President emphasize that the national resources of the country will be preserved and any or all persons engaged in destructive deforestation will be stopped and punished.

In another directive, the President takes measures to implement immediately the stated policy of the administration to exercise the utmost economy in government spending, by issuing a memorandum restricting operational expenses.

The directive, contained In Memorandum Circular No. 1, is issued through Executive Secretary Rafael M. Salas.

The memorandum which specifies six orders for immediate and strict compliance by all bureaus, departments, and other offices of the executive branch, led off with the dismissal of all casual employees, restriction of travel within and outside the country, and the freezing of all promotions.

The Executive Secretary's memorandum specifies the following:

1. Terminate the services of all casual employees.
2. Suspend all promotions and the filling of all existing vacant positions and those which may hereafter become vacant.
3. Suspend all purchases of equipment, motor vehicle and furniture except those which are absolutely necessary.
4. Limit all travels whether abroad or local, or those that are urgent or necessary, and in such cases, only the minimum in number and in expenses shall be allowed.
5. Observe strict economy in the consumption of office supplies and materials and in the use of office facilities and utilities.
6. Observe strictly all existing orders, directives and measures promulgated to effect economy in the expenditures of public funds.

The memorandum is issued "in view of stringent financial conditions for which the need for economy has become imperative, particularly in the operational expenses of the government.

In the afternoon, the President motors to Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City where he is honored with a welcome parade and review by the Armed Forces of the Philippines as their new Commander-in-Chief.

In his extemporaneous remarks, the President exhorts the Armed Forces to adhere to duty, lead in the smuggling drive, and rely only on performance for advancement in the ranks.

The Chief Executive asks the men and officers of the armed forces to pay devotion to duty at all times, and let not friendship nor influence nor relationships substitute for performance in the matter of advancement. He warns that he will not condone any breach of discipline or wrongdoing, and that he will always be “on the sidelines watching.”

The President says he looks forward to the updating of arms and equipment, particularly those of the engineering construction battalions. He states the armed forces should be committed to civilian authority and will not tolerate cliques within the military establishment.

He pledges strong and fair leadership. He tells the members of the AFP that he will “protect your rear” as they move forward in the performance of their missions for the good of the country. He asks there should be a revitalization of the armed forces, in spirit and morality as well as in

In the evening the President and the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, tenders a “state dinner in honor of the representatives of chiefs of state and foreign dignitaries, and their ladies who attended the presidential inaugural ceremonies.

Earlier in the morning, the President receives U.S. Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey who headed the U.S. delegation which attended his inauguration. Accompanied by Ambassador William McCormick, Blair, Jr. Vice President Humphrey calls at Malacañang to say goodbye prior to his return to Washington.

During the call the President and the U.S. Vice President has had an exchange of views on the broad range of Philippine-American relations.

Vice-President Humphrey particularly expresses his gratification at having been asked to convey President Johnson’s warm feelings of friendship and respect to President Marcos, the newly chosen leader of the Filipino people.

“The general question of Southeast Asia and the possibility of the Philippine Government to immediately associate itself even more closely with the joint efforts of the Free World in this region, are discussed during the meeting,” a formal statement issued during the call, says.

Vice-President Humphrey presents President Marcos with an engraved silver desk set with the inscription, “To His Excellency, Ferdinand E. Marcos, President of the Philippines. From Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States of America, Dec, 30, 1965.”

Another gift presented to the President is a Norman Rockwell photograph of President Johnson.

As his own parting gift, Vice-President Humphrey presents the Philippine President with a Steuben glass vase.

Meanwhile, President Marcos issues the following message on the eve of the 74th birth anniversary of President Manuel Roxas:

“It is with both sorrow and pride, and with warm personal recollection, that I commend to you the memory of the late President Manuel Roxas, who will surely loom large in our history, and for all times remain a supreme example of the nobility and genius of our race.

“President Roxas was one of those rare men of splendid spirit and singular eloquence, who are destined to lead nations. He took helm of our country at a time when we were prostrate from a ruinous war, and a newly born nation needful of direction and mentorship. Manuel Roxas provided these, and more. He laid the foundations of our present Republic, and pointed the way forward.

“Remembering Roxas is a very personal thing for me, for it was he who also sent me off on my way, to a public service career that, in reaching the present eminence which I have been privileged to achieve, I must own, was in great part due to his tutelage, encouragement, and example.

“But each of us will remember Roxas, should indeed remember him, as a great Filipino, who was an architect and a builder of the future. We can best remember him by continuing the task he started, and crowning it with success.”

President Marcos, at the same time, issues the following message on the eve of New Year’s day:

“Never before have I wished for a New Year more laden with hope than I do now at this time which I feel must surely become the beginning of a new epoch for our young nation, otherwise all our good intentions and fine words will be to no avail.

“I look forward to a hopeful year because we are burdened with grave problems that we must try to solve not only with brains and brawn but, in attempting this monumental task, we should endow it with hope and goodwill as well. It is often said that the New Year is the day for renewing hope and personal resolve. Be it so, therefore. Let us hope and let us resolve as a people to make this hope burgeon into a bounty of achievements, in every field, in every area of enterprise that we undertake for the good of our land and our people.

“And I would certainly hope, too, that if we find the tasks before us difficult, we should not bow before these difficulties but bear up with fortitude and increased determination. It is the only way we could dominate our problems and win through to our noble goals.

To my countrymen, Mrs. Marcos and I wish them in the time honored way, a happy and prosperous New Year.”

**January 1.**—PRESIDENT Marcos ushers in the New Year with midnight mass at the Malacañang Chapel following the dinner and reception at the Palace on the eve of New Year’s day

With him at the mass are the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, members of the Cabinet and other ranking government officials who attended the reception.

Following the mass, President and Mrs. Marcos receive thousands of people who swarmed to the Palace grounds to greet the First Couple during the traditional New Year’s Day reception at Malacañang.

An estimated 100,000 throng of people, many of whom had come all the way from the provinces stream in and out of the Palace premises the whole day.

The First Couple first receive ranking government officials, members of the diplomatic corps and their ladies.

In an exchange of greetings and toasts with members of the diplomatic corps, the President expresses the hope that the New Year would see continued peace and prosperity not only in the Philippines but also in the whole world.

“I hope for continued peace and prosperity not only in our area but in the whole world. It is my hope that God will grant us the strength and the wisdom in the attainment of this objective,” the President says.

He explains to the diplomats their warm greetings and high hopes for the Filipino people reflected the country’s sentiments about the relationship between the world’s family of nations and the Philippines.

“As you know, our people have again demonstrated their fidelity to the democratic institutions which they themselves have chosen, and your presence here is not only an honor to Mrs. Marcos and myself but to the Filipino people as well,” the President adds.

The foreign envoys, through Monsignor Carlo Martini, dean of the diplomatic corps, express confidence that the President's first year of administration would be "a giant step to greatness."

They state they knew how arduous the new mandate of the people was, which demanded a new leadership for progress, prosperity and greatness.

The diplomats assure the President of "friendly collaboration," saying that peace and international collaboration are indispensable conditions in the "Life March" of nations.

Taking time out only for lunch, the First Couple resume receiving their well-wishers until the evening.

Later in the evening, the President and the First Lady entertain the President's comrades-in-arms in the USAFIP-NL guerillas, headed by Gen. Russel Volckmann, at dinner at the Palace.

**January 2.**—IN a determined effort to install without delay a policy of rigorous fiscal restraint, President Marcos orders the Philippine National Bank to defer the processing and release of all loans in excess of P50,000 until further advice.

At the same time, the President directs the Development Bank of the Philippines, the Government Service Insurance System, and the Social Security System to submit immediately a report on their financial status as of December 31, 1965.

The Chief Executive issues these directives through Executive Secretary Rafael M. Salas.

Reiterating his observation that the economic condition of the government requires immediate retrenchment, the President emphasizes that every form of waste and extravagance, should be condemned as inimical to public

"Frugality with government funds and resources must be developed into a habit at every level of government," the President had stated in his inaugural address. "High officials must themselves set the example."

In another directive, through Secretary Salas, the President asks the Securities and Exchange Commissioner to submit immediately a report on the financial position of all transportation companies as reflected in their books of accounts for the period ending December 21, 1965.

The President issues the directive to determine the extent of losses being sustained by these companies which warranted the recent increases of fares in busses and inter island vessels.

In the morning, the President starts the day by playing a round of golf at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club, with Speaker Cornelio Villareal, former Japanese Premier Nobosuke Kishi, Japanese Ambassador Harumi Takeuchi and Jose Laurel III.

Following the game, Premier Kishi presents the President a souvenir silver cup with the inscription: "Presented by Premier Nobosake Kishi to His Excellency, President Ferdinand E. Marcos, January 2, 1966.

Back at Malacañang, the President works the whole day on slate papers in the seclusion of his study.

**January 3.**—PRESIDENT Marcos signs the administrative order formally signifying his assumption of the secretaryship of national defense as of the time he took his oath as sixth President of the Republic.

The President then holds a three-hour long conference with top defense officials at Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City where, among others, he informally installs retired Brig. Gen. Ernesto Mala and retired Col. Manuel Syquiao as special assistants to him; him undertake studies of the problems of the department.

Other points taken up at the conference are:

1. Updating of military equipment through reparations from Japan;
2. Increasing the number of trainees in order to reach a closer approximation of the spirit of the National Defense Act; and
3. Reshuffle of the defense establishment to affect only policy determining positions but all personnel under the classified civil service to be retained and given ample protection.

The President is likewise given a closed-door intelligence briefing by Gen. Rigoberto Atienza, AFP chief of staff, during which is discussed at length the extent and degree of smuggling activities all over the country.

The Chief Executive also issues a proclamation declaring Thursday (January 6), this year as a special public holiday in Quezon City. January 6 is the birth, anniversary of Melchora Aquino, known as “Tandang Sora,” a famous heroine of the Revolution.

In issuing the Proclamation, the first to be issued under his administration, the President says the people of Quezon City where “Tandang Sora” was born should be afforded an opportunity to honor her with appropriate ceremonies “for her humanitarian work and sacrifices.”

In the afternoon, the President meets with officials directly concerned with the anti-smuggling drive.

During the meeting, the President issues a series of directives aimed at intensifying the government campaign against smuggling, namely,

1. The immediate replacement of Brig. Gen. Segundo Gazmin by Col. Manuel Yan, as commander of the second PC zone, and the transfer of Gazmin to the general staff of the AFP chief of staff;
2. Asks Prof. Enrique Fernando, whom he had designated legal adviser to the President and legal counsel of the anti-smuggling committee, to confer with Justice Secretary Jose Yulo and Executive Secretary Rafael IYL Salas on the feasibility of assigning special judges to areas pinpointed as smuggling centers, to try smuggling cases;
3. The Civil Affairs Office to undertake a massive information and educational drive in support of the campaign;
4. All government personnel not to use smuggled goods under pain of administrative punishment;
5. That in the reshuffle of zone and provincial commanders, Gen. Olivarez may submit names of all officers, including those from the army who may replace incumbents; that the reshuffle may include the reassignment of affected officers and enlisted men to training camps;
6. Constabulary and customs personnel to coordinate efforts and conserve their energies for the tasks at hand; and
7. The study of a system whereby payment of customs duties shall be made direct to the banks thus eliminate intermediaries who, in the past, have contributed to the perpetration of irregularities in customs transactions.

It is also decided at the conference that the departments of justice, finance and defense will organize their respective operations and coordinating centers which, however, will be subordinate to the operations and coordinating centers at Cabinet Level.

**January 4.**—SIGNIFYING his intentions to give his administration’s land and rural development program full emphasis, President Marcos issues two executive orders elevating the Presidential Assistant on Community

Development and the Land Authority to Cabinet rank. The positions are invested with “all the rights, honors, and privileges” pertaining to a member of the Cabinet.

The Chief Executive names former Gov. Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan as the new Land Authority governor and former Manila Councilor Ernesto Maceda as the PACD chief.

In the morning, the President receives a number of callers among whom are Col. Robert Arnold, one of his American comrades-in-arms during the Second World War who attended the inauguration ceremonies. Arnold pays the President a farewell call prior to leaving for home shortly.

In the afternoon, he receives three officials of the Bus Operators Association of the Philippines (BOAP) who pledge the lowering of bus rates following the President’s appeal to them.

The BOAP officials, during their call, voluntarily pledge a lowering of the present hiked bus rates to ten centavos per five kilometers, in response to the President’s appeal in behalf of the public.

They also state that they would go to the Public Service Commission to ask for the reconsideration of the previously increased minimum fare on buses. This increase of the minimum fare from ten to 15 centavos was implemented sometime last week.

The PSC had approved and implemented the increase in minimum fare for buses operating in Manila and suburbs, explaining that the general rise in prices had made it more difficult for the bus operators to keep their units running. But it met with instant opposition from the public, particularly from regular commuters.

Meantime, President Marcos reconstitutes the National Parks Development Committee, naming the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos as chairman and taking civic leaders into its membership.

The committee is reactivated with the issuance of an Executive Order, which also amended Executive Order No. 69, dated Feb. 7, 1964, reconstituting the membership of the body. The committee was formerly headed by the previous First Lady, Mrs. Evangelina M. Macapagal.

The body will continue to function as the main agency charged with the maintenance and improvement of national parks scattered all over the archipelago, some of which are forest reserves and the others are public gardens and historical monuments.

**January 5** —PRESIDENT Marcos makes a surprise visit to the customs area and the piers, and confers with customs officials and sees for himself the operations of this revenue-collecting agency of the government.

Upon his arrival at the customs zone, the President proceeds direct to the office of Acting Customs Commissioner Pablo Mariano. He learns that customs collection increased by P1.5 million during the past two days, as compared to that of the same period last year. Commissioner Mariano also briefs the President on all the phases of customs operations.

The President gets a detailed picture of the red tape in the processing of incoming cargoes when he visits all the divisions involved in the procedure. At the Marine Division alone, he is informed that some 14 officials sign or initial export declarations. Other divisions into whose operations the President looked were the cash division, the appraisers division and the examining division.

The Chief Executive looks into the customs operations for an hour-and-a-half, but before leaving he asks the customs officials to submit recommendations on how to do away with red tape and bottlenecks at the pier sheds, as well as on the prevention of pilferages of goods.



From the customs area, the President inspects the progress in the construction of Pier 15, which is part of the expansion program of the customs bureau.

Following the visit, the President appoints retired Col. Jacinto Gavino as commissioner of customs. Gavino has the reputation of being an organization man, and has served extensively in key posts in the government before his retirement, and after he terminated his army career. He is expected to streamline the customs service in line with the President's objective to make it a more effective, arm of the government.

Back in Malacañang, the President confers with Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco on the proposed budget for the next fiscal year. Also at the conference which ended at 4 p.m. is Honesto Mendoza, chief of the technical staff of the finance and economy committee of the Senate.

At the same time, President Marcos issues an executive order which revises the system of-payments of taxes, fees and other charges on imports at the customs, by authorizing the Central Bank to collect all payments through agent banks.

The President takes this step to fill an "imperative need" for a "more effective system of collecting customs duties, taxes and other levies" in order to tighten the method of raising revenues. The new system will have the Central Bank collecting payments on all imported goods through its authorized agent banks, which will later be remitted to the commissioner of customs.

Excepted from the order are customs duties, taxes and other levies due on no-dollar imports which are not covered by release certificates issued by the Central Bank. These payments will continue to be collected by the bureau of customs.

The customs bureau will continue to assess, appraise and examine imports, and impose the amounts necessary. Adjusted payments after assessment balances, as the case maybe, will be paid through the Central Bank. In case of over payment, the customs bureau will refund directly.

The monetary board- will promulgate the implementing rules and regulations. He also orders:

1. The department of finance to study expansion of the customs zone. Affected initially are the NDC, Nacida, and PC warehouses; the department of commerce compound up to Engineering Island;
2. That construction of Pier 15 in the vicinity of the Legaspi Landing be expedited;
3. That henceforth the assessment and examination of all imports be made in the presence of representatives of all business chambers and trade organizations;
4. The department of foreign affairs to look into the participation of department personnel abroad in the misdeclaration of imported goods-
5. The department of justice to extend full cooperation to the foreign affairs, commerce and finance departments in the investigation and disposal of cases of misdeclaration;
6. The reexamination of the security system at the customs zone, with the view simplifying operations, possibly to bring all security agencies there under one command, in order to pinpoint responsibility.

At present, there is an overlapping network of security agencies at the customs zone, including the harbor police, the security personnel of the arrastre service and a PC task force.

**January 6.**—PRESIDENT Marcos orders the outright recall and return of all appointments pending action by the Civil Service Commission., the Wage and Position Classification Office (WAPCO) and the Budget Commission, for further study and review.

In an administrative order, the President points out that numerous appointments had been hurriedly made or issued by the outgoing administration which are now pending action by the three offices.

The present administration deems it necessary in the public interest to review and study further said appointments, particularly in the light of its administrative program and the present precarious fiscal position of the government,” the President states.

He stresses that no further action be taken on all these appointment papers and that they be returned to the respective offices where they originated. Appointments pertaining to purely provincial or municipal offices are not included in the order.

The whole afternoon up to the early hours of the evening, the President receives provincial delegations which took up with him matters concerning their respective localities.

Following the calls, the President and the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, and their children hear mass at the Palace chapel in observance of the Feast of the Three Kings.

Meantime, President Marcos states that his administration will give full support to the participation of private agencies and civic organizations in community development work.

In a message he issued on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the office of the Presidential Assistant on Community Development (PACD), the President stresses that integrated and coordinated community development efforts, “exerted on a holistic approach, should be directed to pursuing undertakings which will redound to the greatest good to the greatest number.”

The Chief Executive, calls on the people to join hands in the huge task of liberating “our less fortunate brethren from the bondage of poverty, hunger, illiteracy, and disease, and to restore their faith in themselves.”

The President also issues an executive order raising the PACD to Cabinet level.

The President reveals he will urge the passage of necessary legislation to convert the PACD into a full-fledged department with expanded activities geared towards the uplift of the rural masses.

He notes that “nation-building is a great and massive task in which every Filipino, young or old, rich or poor, in the public or private sector, of whatever creed or belief, has to contribute his share.”

He concludes saying he will utilize whatever resources and facilities are within\* his command and influence, to enable a more effective and vigorous implementation of this program directed at bringing social justice and a more meaningful life to all—the best way to make this nation great again.”

**January 7** — AS the need for stopping the illegal acquisition of material gains through dubious means such as graft and corruption, smuggling, subversion and lawlessness arises President Marcos issues an executive order creating the Presidential Agency on Reforms and Government Operations in place of the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee.

In his executive order, the President abolishes the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee (PAGCOM) and names former Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang as the chief of the Presidential Agency on Reforms and Government (PARGO), the new agency.

Cabangbang is a former representative of Bohol. He was an army pilot in the World War II and later served with the Philippine Air Force during and after the war.

The PARGO, which was placed on a Cabinet level, thereby vesting on Cabangbang all the powers and privileges of a cabinet secretary, will function in many ways like the PAGCOM—as a graft-busting arm of the executive branch with authorization to investigate graft and corruption in the public service. It has also been given other and wide-ranging duties by the President.

The new office will also serve as the Presidential link to the people as a clearing house for information and data needed by the President regarding the national situation, and as an information and education agency with the specific objective of strengthening the spiritual and moral fiber of government employees, and the people in general.

At the same time, the President appoints Col. Manuel B. Syquiao, as one of two undersecretaries of defense; and retired Major General Ismael Lapuz, as chief of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency.

The new defense undersecretary, is a veteran military career man. A colonel in the signal corps and AFP comptroller at the time of his appointment, Syquiao is from Hagonoy, Bulacan. A graduate of the PMA and various service schools for advanced command training in the U.S., the new DND official has had a wide variety of experience in the military service, and has won several commendations.

Gen. Lapuz takes over from Gen. Marcos Soliman as NICA chief. Recently retired from the military service, Lapuz has headed many sensitive posts in the armed forces, capped by his tour of duty as vice chief of staff of the AFP.

In the morning, the President swears in Col. Segundo Velasco as chief of the Philippine Constabulary, the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos. Teodoro Valencia, and Executive Secretary Rafael M. Salas, as chairman, vice chairman and treasurer, respectively, of the National Parks Development Committee.

Following the induction ceremonies, the President receives a group of visiting Japanese businessmen led by Shutaro Kamiya, president of the Toyota Motors, who paid him a courtesy call. Kamiya and his companions arrived the other day for a five-day visit during which they will discuss business expansion programs with Filipino business partners.

During the call of the Japanese businessmen, the President gives assurance that joint ventures between Filipino and Japanese businessmen will receive the cooperation and protection of his administration.

The Japanese businessmen reveal the plans for expansion of a joint undertaking in paper pulp manufacturing between the Japan Chemical Industries and the Canlubang Sugar Estate. Established at a cost of P5-million, the plant processes sugar bagasse into pulp for paper manufacturing. Submission of the Philippine-Japanese treaty to the Senate for ratification was one of the matters taken up between the President and former Japanese Prime Minister Nobosuke Kishi, one of the Foreign dignitaries who attended the inauguration of the Chief Executive.

Kamiya presents to the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, a check for P10,000 for cultural projects.

In thanking Kamiya for the donation, the First Lady says it will go a long way in realizing her project of constructing a National Theatre.

After the call, the President meets Public Works Secretary-designate Antonio Raquiza and acting Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista on the public works program.

In his talks with the two, the President orders them to confer with officials of the departments of agriculture and commerce, as well as with those of the UP College of Agriculture in Los Baños which is conducting a rice research, on the construction of irrigation systems

The President bares a systematic approach to public works construction and better coordination with the private sector, whose participation in projects, such as the expansion of bridge building and road construction will be worthwhile.

He emphasizes planning in the expansion of national roads and bridges in order to give financiers in the private sector an idea of where and how they could fit in. A meeting among the public works and finance officials, as well as private financiers, to explore ways of coming to an agreement on the terms and types of investments, is suggested by the President.

Participation of the private sector in public works construction could mean the mobilization of private capital to help government projects, which investment could be recovered through tolls. How these tolls will be collected will be worked out among the parties concerned.

On the construction of irrigation systems, the President feels that there should be close consultation with rice research authorities in Los Baños in order to discover where they could be of greatest service in rice production.

Then, the President meets at luncheon Manila newsmen covering the Palace.

During the luncheon, the President reveals to the newsmen that the barrio Capipisa in Tanza, Cavile which had heretofore been off-limits to the AFP is the target of an amphibious force of the AFP.

The President orders the assault of that main capital of smuggling this noon. The assault was classified as top secret, with the operation designed to surprise the smugglers. The President bares this assault shortly after the government force had carried out its orders.

The government troops started landing at 4:15 p.m. Friday, and immediately found indications of smuggling activity, as they noted the fresh truck tires criss-crossing the beach, and fish nets scattered about, presumably used to haul away contraband goods.

The Capipisa strike is the first of several assaults planned on smuggling bases, as part of the total anti-smuggling drive activated by the President, an important phase of which is the AFP participation which the Chief Executive in effect personally directs in his concurrent capacity as defense secretary.

The Chief Executive remarks that the success of the anti-smuggling drive of the government will depend to a large extent on the firm and able leadership in the Philippine Constabulary.

The President devotes the whole evening going over state papers in the seclusion of his study.

**January 8.**—PRESIDENT Marcos orders the immediate investigation of the reported sale of a choice piece of government land to a private party which was approved by the previous administration only last December.

In his directive, the President orders the Executive office and the justice department to conduct the investigation. He says he wanted the probe started immediately.

The property involves an 82-hectare, P65-million worth of rolling land and part of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority reservation near the Balara Filters, which was sold at the giveaway price of P3-million. The property was originally intended for a housing project for the Nawasa employees.

The President spends almost the whole morning laying the groundwork of the administration's determined drive against smuggling and criminality.

The Chief Executive first summons the newly-designated PC zone commanders to Malacañang, upon whom he impressed the seriousness of the task ahead of them.

Following the meeting with chiefs of the national police agencies, the President appeals at luncheon to the officials of the department of foreign affairs, including chiefs of Philippine diplomatic missions abroad who are now in Manila, to complement the efforts of the government in solving domestic internal problems, particularly smuggling. He slates that Ambassadors and other diplomatic and consular officials could help great extent in the anti-smuggling drive by preventing misdeclaration of goods for import, to the Philippines.

After the conference with foreign affairs officials, the Chief Executive appoints three more cabinet undersecretaries, to fill vacancies in the foreign office, national defense and labor departments.

Named to the No. 2 posts in the three departments are:

1. Brig. Gen. Ernesto S. Mata, retired, as one of two undersecretaries of defense.
2. Manuel Collantes, career minister, as undersecretary for administration in the foreign affairs department.
3. Raoul Inocentes as undersecretary of Labor.

Gen. Mata retired from the armed forces after 30 years of service, his last post being as commanding general of the Philippine Army. A graduate of the Philippine Military Academy, he became its commandant in the course of his service. He was a BCT commander in the link campaign, as well as commander of other famed units. He also underwent further training in US command schools. Among the award; he holds are the Distinguished Service Star with one bronze Anahaw leaf, the Philippine Legion of Honor, the US Legion of Merit, and the Military Merit Medal with 4 bronze Anahaw leaves.

A veteran of numerous international conferences, including duty at the United Nations, Collantes has been on home assignment since 1958. At the time of his appointment, he was serving as Secretary-General of the Conference of Chief of Missions at Padre Faura.

One of the aides to President-elect Marcos last December, the new undersecretary played a key role in the drive for the selection of Manila as the site of the newly-created Asian Development Bank.

A native of Tanauan, Batangas, Collantes joined the foreign service in 1946 as a senior assistant. Following successive tours of duty in Washington, Paris and New York, he rose rapidly in the career service and became counselor on administration in 1980 and chief of protocol in 1963.

A holder of a Bachelor of Laws Degree, Inocentes has had extensive training in labor administration both here and in the United States.

His stint in the labor department started in 1954 when he was private secretary to the secretary of labor.

Subsequently, he was at one time conciliator and legal assistant acting director of the bureau of labor relations, thrice acting Undersecretary of Labor, acting chief of the Labor Statistics Service and officer-in-charge of the bureau of labor standards.

Inocentes has also been a member of Philippine delegations to international labor conferences, and professor and lecturer on labor and social legislations in several colleges.

Meantime, President Marcos bares he will press for the renegotiation of the \$800 million Philippine Veterans claims with the United States and for this reason will reconstitute the Philippine panel to meet with Washington officials.

He will also work for the release of \$28 million earmarked by the U.S. for an education fund. This sum represents the unclaimed portion of the \$73 million appropriated by the U.S. Congress to pay in full the Philippine War damage claims.

The Philippines had originally filed an omnibus war claim of \$3 billion but this amount was reduced to \$800 million.

In refusing to recognize the \$800 million claim, the U.S. had contented that there was no authentic roster of veterans on which to base the actual amount of the claim.

The Filipino veterans, in cooperation with the armed forces, has completed their researches on the matter and are ready to submit authentic documents to support the Philippine claims.

The claims cover the pay differentials of Filipino soldiers who were not given equal pay and equal benefits as their American comrades in the last war.

**January 9.**— PRESIDENT Marcos enjoins all government officials and employees, as well as private citizens, to cooperate more fully in the intensified campaign launched by the administration against smuggling.

The Chief Executive, in an executive order, points out that under existing laws, smuggling and traffic in smuggled goods as well as mere possession of smuggled goods are penal offenses, and, in the case of government personnel, administrative offenses.

The President notes that smuggling and traffic in smuggled articles is a form of subversion which erodes our economic gains, promotes crime and encourages lawlessness.

He observes that in recent years there have been rampant and unabated smuggling and illicit trading in smuggled products of all kinds, not limited to blue seal cigarettes alone.

He urges the people to comply with existing laws and orders on smuggling “under pain of being subjected to civil, penal and administrative sanctions, as the case may be.”

The President cautions that any violation of anti-smuggling orders by government officials and employees shall be enough ground for administrative action against them and for the imposition of severe penalty, including dismissal from the service, “whenever appropriate.”

He orders all heads of government offices, including government-owned or controlled corporations, to file corresponding administrative charges against any officer or employee found violating the order.

At the same time, the President appoints Manuel Nieto, Jr., as commissioner of the Board of Travel and Tourist Industry, and Flores Bayot as Malacañang assistant executive secretary on local governments.

Nieto, a former chairman of the Games and Amusement Board, replaces Conchita Sunico as head of the BTIT. A prominent sportsman, the new chairman of the government tourist office has travelled widely and is in a unique position to head successfully this bureau.

Bayot, a practising lawyer and political leader in Capiz, is deputy secretary-general of the Nacionalista Party.

In the morning, the President takes to the greens for relaxation, following a week of continuous ground-laying work on solutions for the more urgent problems of government.

Back in Malacañang from the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club shortly before one o’clock in the afternoon, the President meets with his financial and economic advisers, among whom were Finance Secretary Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Commerce Secretary Marcelo Balatbat and Governor Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank.

In the evening, the President hears mass at the Palace chapel, with the members of his family.

**January 10** — In response to a public demand, President Marcos meets the executives of the different oil companies in the country with whom he discusses the return of the original prices of kerosene and gasoline.

The return to the old prices was agreed upon during his meeting with six top executives of oil companies operating in the Philippines.

During this period the government will reexamine policies that affect the “proper return on capital invested” of such companies as these oil firms, which have a special problem of “abnormally heavy receivables.” In this connection, the President directs Finance Secretary Eduardo Z. Romualdez to head a special committee to review the problems of the oil companies.

The executives explain at the meeting the background and reasons for the recent price increases. They particularly cite the low return on invested capital, and the “special problem” of carrying unduly heavy receivables, which is further aggravated by the tremendous capital outlays required to meet increasing demands.”

Present during the meeting are: E.P. Edmunds, president of Mobil Oil Philippines, Inc.; R.V. del Rosario, president of Filoil Refinery Corporation; W.E. Menefee, president of Caltex (Philippines), Inc.; I.P. Bruce, president of Shell Company; G.H. White, general manager of Esso Standard Eastern Inc.; and W.F. Hagans, president and general manager of Tidewater Oil Company (Philippines) Inc.

The prices of gasoline and kerosene were raised recently lay one centavo per liter. For example, kerosene which sold for 20 centavos before the increase, sells at 21 centavos; ordinary gasoline was raised from 25 centavos to 26 centavos, while premium gasoline sells at 29 centavos after the increase. These prices will be now, marked down by one centavo, restoring them to the old levels.

Following his conference with the officials of the oil firms, the President meets with some 40 ranking officials of the bureau of Internal Revenue-Commission led by BIR Commissioner Misael Vera, on the efficient collection of taxes.

At the meeting, the Chief Executive impresses upon the internal revenue men the need for vigorous enforcement of tax laws and the collection of all taxes due, in the face of the critical financial situation of the government.

The President states that acts inimical to an efficient and honest public service, particularly in revenue collecting agencies will not be condoned. “We cannot stand another year or four years of venalities,” he adds.

The Chief Executive stresses that the BIR is one of the most sensitive and important agencies of the government. Because of this, he states, each employee in the bureau must work diligently to earn the taxpayer’s respect and good will, as well as to instill confidence in the national tax system.

The President points out that there must be an honest tax administration where undue interference and influence of any nature will not be tolerated, where employee integrity should prevail, and where taxpayer honesty must be rigidly enforced.

The government, the President states, can barely operate with its present financial position and is even indebted in the amount of P133-million.

He says that while he is concerned with past irregularities in this collecting agency of the government, he is now more interested in the constructive aspects of the bureau’s work.

The BIR, the President observes, is not only the biggest source of government revenue but is also an office that influences the morality of the people because of the nature of its work.

Because of this, the President concludes, he would be compelled to take action against erring officials and employees.

In the afternoon, the President swears in Undersecretaries of Foreign Affairs Jose D. Ingles and Manuel Collantes, BIR Commissioner Misael Vera, RCA Board member Osmundo Mondoñedo, BTTI Commissioner Manuel Nieto Jr., and CAA Administrator Nilo de Guia.

**January 11.**—PRESIDENT Marcos issues a directive reminding all public officials to file their sworn statements of assets and liabilities.

The President, in his directive contained in a memorandum circular issued through Executive Secretary Rafael M. Salas, points out that under Republic Act No. 3019, otherwise known as the Anti-Graft Law, every public officer is required to file with the offices of his department head such sworn statement “within 30 days—after assuming office and within the month of January of every other year thereafter- as well as upon the expiration of his term of office, or upon his resignation or separation from office.”

Secretary Salas explains that failure to file the required statement within the prescribed period is punishable by a fine of not less than P100 nor more than P1,000, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or by both, at the discretion of the court; or by dismissal from the service in a proper administrative proceeding even if no criminal prosecution is instituted against the official or employee.

The sworn statement shall cover the period from the day immediately following the date included in the previous statement up to December 31, 1965.

In the afternoon, the President receives delegations of provincial and municipal officials who consult him on problems of their respective localities.

Then the Chief Executive confers with Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez, permanent delegate to the UN; and Brig. Gen. Francisco Licuanan, military adviser to the UN mission, who called on him for instructions prior to returning to their UN posts on Friday.

Ambassador Lopez has been in Manila since December 28 last year, to attend the inauguration of the President and the recently-concluded conference among Filipino Chiefs of Missions and key officials of the department of foreign affairs.

Meantime, President Marcos conveys the condolences of the Filipino people to the people of India on the death of Prime Minister Lai Bahadur Shastri.

The Chief Executive designates Benjamin Romualdez as his personal representative at the state funeral of the Indian premier. Romualdez leaves for New Delhi in the afternoon.

In a message he dispatches to President S. Radhakrishnan in New Delhi, the President states that the premier’s death thousands of miles away from his homeland in his quest for peace “all the more magnified his unflinching dedication to the cause of mankind and serves as a shining symbol for all peace loving people everywhere.”

The Indian prime minister died of a heart attack in Tashkent, Russia after concluding a reconciliation summit meeting with Pakistan’s President Ayub Khan.

The text of the President’s message reads:

“It is with shock and profound sorrow that we received the news of the death of Prime Minister Lai Bahadur Shastri in Tashkent.

“His death thousands of miles away from his homeland in the quest for peace all the more magnifies his unflinching dedication to the cause of mankind and serves as a shining symbol for all peace loving people everywhere.



“On this tragic occasion the Filipino people join me in conveying to Your Excellency and through you to the people of India sincere condolences and sympathies.”

**January 12.**—TO avert the threatening disruption of power services to ^ the detriment of the national interest, President Marcos certifies to the Court of Industrial Relations for outright arbitration the dispute between the management of the National Power Corporation and the NPC employees and labor association.

Some 3,000 employees of the power corporation walked out the other night following the failure of the department of labor to settle the labor-management dispute.

In certifying the labor dispute to the CIR, the President stresses the necessity of its immediate settlement because it “clearly affects an industry indispensable to the national interests.”

The President points out that the prolongation of the strike would consequently result in huge economic losses, untold inconveniences, and grave danger to public order and human life.

Stoppage of operations by the NPC, even briefly, the President cautions, will result in the suspension of most activities directly related to daily living. Operations in industrial and business houses may have to stop, and medical and hospital services will be immensely impaired.”

The NPC strike was called after management disputed the demand of the union for the reopening of negotiations for across-the-board salary increases by 21%, even before the expiration of the existing collective bargaining agreement. The workers alleged that certain promotions affected by the NPC aborted the agreement and thus freeing the union to reopen negotiations.

The Chief Executive, at the same time, releases P355,000 to the Social Welfare Administration for cash assistance to the refugees from the Taal volcano eruption late last year, pending arrangements for their resettlement in permanent locations.

The amount is ordered released by President Marcos following the decision of the Presidential Committee on Relief and Rehabilitation to extend more direct material assistance to the refugees in the face of the extreme difficulties they are experiencing.

The amount will be doled out by the SWA, after due processing of the refugees and investigation of their needs.

In the morning, the President enlists the support of the municipal mayors of Rizal province in the administration’s anti-smuggling drive, saying that some Rizal towns serve as entry points for smuggled items to Manila.

The Chief Executive makes the exhortation during the call of a delegation made up of 29 mayors of the province.

“Let us be more vigilant and, if possible, stop smuggled items from entering through your towns,” the President appeals.

In the afternoon, the President confers with Defense Undersecretary Ernesto Mata on matters concerning the defense department, including nominations to the Board of the Veterans Bank of the Philippines.

Then, the President receives some members of Congress who consult him on problems of their respective districts, particularly public works projects.

*Source:* **National Library**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1966). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 62(10), xxi-xxxvi.

